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REPORT

OF THE

EDINBURGH HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY

FOR

1841—1842.

EDINBURGH:

MACLACHLAN, STEWART, & CO.,

SOUTH BRIDGE,



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REPORT

OF THE

EDINBURGH HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY,

SPRING GARDENS, STOCKBRIDGE,

DURING 1841—1842.

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PHYSICIANS,

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19 RUTLAND SQUARE.

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MDCCCXLII.



# REPORT

OF THE

## EDINBURGH HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

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BY what method soever of reasoning or observation those who have adopted a new medical system may have been convinced of its truth, it is only by its practical results that the profession or the public are likely to judge of its merits; and we are perfectly satisfied to allow the judgment for or against HOMŒOPATHY to rest solely upon what it has effected.

There must always be difficulties in the way of collecting materials for such a judgment; and feeling that it is the duty of all, who have it in their power, to afford these, however scanty, we take this early opportunity of stating, as fully as the nature of the institution permits, what the results of our first year's Dispensary practice have been. All who are acquainted with this kind of practice must be aware, how very difficult it is to obtain numerical results of the issue of the cases. Many patients visit us only once, and we do not know whether they have derived benefit or not;—comparatively few remember, or are at the pains, to return and report to us when cured;—and thus, while all cases which terminate fatally are almost sure to be known, because, from their severity, the patients are visited at their own house, of numbers who probably are cured, we never hear more. Besides these ordinary obstacles to definite results in all Dispensary practice, certain peculiarities of our method of treatment tend to multiply the difficulties. As our remedies are, for the most part, alike, both in appearance and taste, as well as very minute in quantity, patients who have never before been homœopathically treated, suppose that they are always getting the same kind of medicine; and unless immediate benefit be derived, which, in some cases, is impossible, they conclude that it is no use continuing the medicine—neglect to

take it regularly, and return to their domestic drugs. Hence almost the only certain general result that our report can afford, will be the total number of patients received, and the total number of fatal cases,—a result, indeed, which, if derived from data sufficiently extensive, in circumstances sufficiently various,—and from the unreserved application of homœopathic treatment,—would afford an average mortality of the highest value, by which the danger, at least, if not the advantages, of our system might be compared with that of others.

For these reasons, while we give the results, as far as we have been able to learn them, in a tabular form, we subjoin a considerable number of detailed cases, which, we believe, will not be uninstructive.

There is an opinion in the mind of every one, that medical evidence is of so delusive a character, that, in the science of medicine, positive results are wholly unattainable. This opinion we think erroneous. The reason why so few positive results have hitherto been obtained, is, because we have not, till lately, rightly set about collecting the requisite data. Every faithfully detailed case ought to be of value,—unless the means employed in its treatment have so deranged the system as to prevent our observing the course of the original disease. Homœopathic treatment, for the most part, does not affect any thing but the disease. There are seldom medicinal symptoms to perplex us. All we have before our eyes is the disease, modified, it may be, in severity, shortened in duration, but constant in the characteristic phenomena it presents. Did we know, with absolute certainty, the average duration of all diseases, we could then determine, with mathematical accuracy, whether, and how far, their course had been shortened or prolonged by the treatment employed. Unfortunately, we have no such absolute standard; and, in its absence, all we can arrive at is an approximation to the truth, more or less near, according to the constant or inconstant course of each disease. If the course of any disease be well known,—if its duration, under everyhitherto tried method of treatment, have been constant, —and if in any given case, similar in other respects, but differently treated, the patient get well considerably within the period which the average duration of the disease would assign,

there will be a probability, more or less strong, in favour of the means employed having been the agency by which its duration was lessened. This probability must be calculable,— and will have a wide or narrow range, according as the average duration has been fixed with greater or less certainty, and as the supposed case terminated at a greater or less period from this average limit. Let us suppose that the chances are 1 to 10 against a chronic disease terminating within a given period, say three months. If that termination do occur, it is plain that the chances are equal in favour of the result being obtained by the treatment. Now, if a second case exactly similar, under the same treatment, also terminate equally within the allotted time, we should then have a chance of 10 to 1 against the termination being spontaneous or accidental. A third similar case would give 100 to 1; and a fourth the enormous probability of 10,000 to 1 in favour of the means employed having been instrumental to the end attained. See cases of rheumatism, chronic headache, skin diseases, &c.

Besides, be it observed, that if the treatment be directed not by simple experience, but in accordance to a general principle; and if, in the treatment of other cases similarly directed, a similar issue is obtained; then, the accumulated chances in favour of that principle having afforded a guide to successful treatment in these cases, gives great probability to the efficacy of treatment founded on the same principle in cases terminating favourably of a class which, from the inconstancy of their course, do not admit of the certain prediction of their duration or event.

While, then, it will chiefly be cases of obstinate intractable diseases that give positive evidence in favour of the Homœopathic method, the confidence so derived will favour the reception of the successful acute cases, and the acute cases will beget additional confidence by so much as the result is different from what might have been anticipated.

Before entering on our detail of cases, it may be right briefly to explain what the term *Homœopathic* means, and wherein lies the difference between the practice of our Dispensary and that of other medical establishments.

The difference between the homœopathic and ordinary practice is twofold, consisting, *first*, in what we do ; and, *secondly*, in what we abstain from doing.

As to the first, we discover and record as accurately and faithfully as we can, the exact symptoms of the patient's case, including a brief sketch of his former complaints and the treatment he has undergone, as well as of the causes which probably gave rise to his present disease. With these symptoms, then, before us, guided by pathology in forming them into groups, and giving to each its due value, we proceed to select a remedy whose action is homœopathically adapted, if possible, to the whole group ; when the nature of the case enables us to select aright, speedy, permanent recovery is the result—simple recovery without any other effect whatever—our object is the expulsion of the disease, not the production of any unnatural discharges, or any other sensible effects of medicines.\* Health is simple negation or absence of disease ; and the perfection of medical science will consist in an ability in every case to cause the disease to disappear insensibly. It is necessary to insist upon this, to meet the prejudice against so perfect a practice ; a prejudice natural to those who have been accustomed to experience violent effects, whether beneficial or otherwise, from all the medicine they took, and never asked themselves whether this violent action on the system at large was absolutely necessary for the reduction of a disease confined, perhaps, only to one small portion of the body.

We may observe, however, that a group of symptoms seldom presents so simple a form, or one so well adapted to the action of a medicine, that one substance alone is sufficient to effect a cure—more frequently we require to change the medicine as the disease changes, adapting a new remedy to each distinct phase, or stage of the malady. The specific effects of about two hundred substances on healthy persons, have been ascertained with more or less accuracy—either from recorded cases of poisoning, or from the effects which those who have taken them, to learn their action, have observed.

Now, it has been discovered from experience and experi-

\* See Cases 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 19, 23, 28, 32, 42, 43, 46.

ment, that the very symptoms which those medicines produce in health, are those for the cure of which they are best fitted.

This, then, is the great principle which guides us in the selection of a remedy—to discover in every case a medicine whose action is similar to the disease. Guided by this principle alone, we have arrived at the results which we now submit to the public. If the results are decidedly bad, it may be from an imperfect application of our principle; if, however, they are decidedly good, it involves an absurdity to suppose that they can arise from the operation of a purely false principle, unless some most powerful beneficial agent, *hitherto overlooked*, distinct from the medical treatment, can be pointed out.

There is a minor principle which necessarily follows, as a consequence of the establishment of the first and great one. It is to give medicines in small doses, lest, instead of curing, they aggravate the disease. This danger of aggravation prevents the dose being so large, as to produce any effects but insensible cure.

It is obvious, that if our principle be good, it affords means of treating every case where the symptoms are similar to the effects of any known substances, without having recourse to such measures as are commonly adopted. If a headache can be cured by a small dose of a substance, whose only effect, as far as the patient's feelings are concerned, is the removal—permanent removal—of that form of headache, to purge is neither necessary nor desirable. If we can cure inflammation of the lungs, by administering a medicine specifically adapted to this end; bleeding is unnecessary. So that, it will be seen that the measures in common use, and considered indispensable to recovery, were only resorted to in the absence of others more immediately beneficial, and whenever the latter become established, the former ought to fall into disuse, being in themselves injurious.

## CASES.

### I. PNEUMONIA (*Inflammation of the lungs*) and TYPHUS FEVER.

This case we select, as illustrating how well the homœopathic method is adapted to those embarrassing cases, where two

diseases, each believed to require a diametrically opposite course of treatment, are combined. Inflammation of the lungs requires active depletion, as is generally supposed; while typhus fever, which always endangers the life of the patient by the exhaustion that attends and follows it, demands that the patient's strength should be husbanded as much as possible. How, then, are these two opposite indications to be fulfilled? How are we to bleed to save the patient from dying of inflammation, and not increase the risk of his dying of typhus? Or how shall we stimulate to support his strength, sinking under the fever, and not increase the inflammation? Every practitioner has felt the dilemma; and the clumsy expedient must be resorted to of uniting the two opposite practices—bleeding and the administration of stimulants. Without commenting on a procedure which exposes, better perhaps than most, the infirmities that envelope ordinary practice, from the danger of the means of cure being often equal to that of the disease, we may safely remark, that all who have treated such cases are keenly alive to the extreme embarrassment of their situation, and, we sincerely believe, will gladly welcome, as the greatest possible improvement, any method which can counteract the fatal inflammation, without compromising the strength of the patient, or which can at once oppose the violence of the local disease, and remedy the insidious debility of the fever.

W. M<sup>c</sup>., aged 28, of a nervous-sanguineous temperament, short stout habit of body, a stone-mason by occupation, was admitted at the Dispensary on the 18th of December, with a chronic cough: a hard dry cough had existed six weeks; there had been no expectoration, but inclination to vomit after the fits of coughing; for this he got *Nux v.*\* alternately with *Ipecac*. The examination of the chest afforded no physical signs of disease.

Upon the 20th, a message was sent that he was very ill, and could not come to the Dispensary; we went in consequence to visit him, and found him lying in a low damp apartment. It appeared that, on the evening of the 18th, that is, the day on which he was at the Dispensary, he was attacked with violent

\* With few exceptions, the medicines were given dissolved in water, and thus administered at intervals varying according to the nature of the case.

shivering, pain in the back and limbs, severe headache, and frequent cough. He was slightly delirious that night, and violently so on the following. When we saw him, his expression was anxious and stupid; a number of elevated pale red spots were visible on legs and arms. The eyes were suffused, the tongue white; he complained of great thirst; no pain in abdomen. The breathing was very hurried, a pain was felt in lower part of chest rather heavy than acute; pulse 120 soft.

This group of symptoms, and the man's general appearance, more particularly the delirium, the eruption, and the pulse, seemed to indicate typhus fever, which was rather prevalent at the time. The petechial spots were earlier than is usual, but they were of a very distinctive character, and left no doubt on our mind of its being a case of typhus.

We might even have neglected to make a more minute examination of the chest, but we were told that the expectoration was "mixed with blood," and this, of course, directed our attention to the chest. We found the lower part of left side quite dull behind, as high as ridge of scapula; and distinct bronchial respiration and bronchophony, and no vesicular respiration audible over the part. There was also dulness anteriorly; but here, from want of a stethoscope, the state of the respiration could not be so well ascertained.

He was ordered *Phosph.*, a dose to be taken every hour.

When seen in the evening at eight, he was a little easier; pulse was 108, rather weak, not full.

21st.—The report was, that he had passed a quieter night; did not rave so much as on the previous nights; did not sleep. Cough is very frequent, every ten minutes; expectoration reddish, not very abundant, and very difficult to expectorate. A great many reddish spots on arm. Tongue dark at back part; bitter taste in mouth; eyes feel as if scalded. Percussion elicits a dull sound as high as ridge of scapula behind, and as high as nipple before, upon left side. Bronchial respiration very loud; no crepitation audible. Continue *Phosph.*

22d.—Great oppression of breathing; respiration very rapid; dulness and bronchial respiration over whole of back part of left side of chest. Puerile respiration heard on right side. Tongue white, great thirst.

In the evening the pulse was 120, and the breathing very

oppressed ; great general depression. *Metal. alb.* a dose every two hours.

23d.—Had a very restless uneasy night until four o'clock in the morning. Cough frequent, vexatious ; much oppression of chest. After four o'clock experienced some relief, and now looks a little better. The pulse is 100 ; the tongue is dark and coated ; the expression is languid, but the most favourable symptom was a small crepitating râle being audible at the back part of the chest, the sure indication of the returning permeability of the condensed lung. There was great languor, and there seemed much risk of an aggravation of the symptoms of typhus. He was ordered *Rhus*.

24th.—There is more frothy expectoration to-day, not so much uneasiness of chest. The pulse is 110, and weak. The bronchial respiration and dulness diminished. *Rhus.* to be continued.

25th.—Coughed a great deal during night ; expectoration viscid, and slightly tinged with blood ; pulse 100. Looks much improved. Bronchial respiration no longer uniformly audible. Sound clearer on percussion. Musical râles distinguishable in various places. *Sound on percussion of anterior part under left clavicle dull*, and no respiratory murmur audible at the part. Continue *Rhus*.

On the 28th the pulse was 84, and stronger ; cough a good deal less ; expectoration consistent, mucous, with cheese-like matter. Sleeps sound, appetite returning. The posterior part of the chest was quite clear on percussion ; and vesicular respiration, attended with mucous râle, was re-established.

On the 30th the dulness in anterior part of chest had diminished ; pulse was 80, of good strength ; still appearance of curdy-like masses in the expectoration. Cough less, complains of pain in fore-part of leg. Was ordered *Calc.*

31st.—Pulse natural, sleeps well, appetite good.

January 3d. No dulness under clavicle ; still some cough and expectoration ; sleep and appetite good ; is quite convalescent, although still very weak. From this time he rallied rapidly, and in about ten days afterwards, was able to resume his work. He has since remained perfectly well, having been seen in the month of June.

II. PNEUMONIA, WITH PERICARDITIS (*Inflammation of the Lung, together with the enveloping Membrane of the Heart*).

R. M., aged 8, has complained for some time of pain in the region of the heart, which prevented him running about so much as his companions. On returning on the 18th December from school, he was seized with shivering and headache, followed on the 19th by vomiting. He was visited by us on the 20th, when he presented the following symptoms:—Face flushed, skin hot and dry, pulse 130, full, and sometimes irregular. Complains of excessive pain in the region of the heart, increased very much by pressure, movement, and coughing; violent palpitation of the heart. Breathing very hurried. The action of the heart is very rapid; no abnormal sound can be detected. Complete dulness upon percussion over the left, lower, and back part of chest, with distinct bronchial respiration. *Acon.*, a dose every hour.

Evening of the 20th.—Pulse not so full; pain in region of heart diminished; breathing less hurried; slight crepitation can be heard over dull region of the lungs. Continue *Acon.*, followed by *Phosph.*

21st.—Pulse 140, full, palpitations less violent; complains of pain extending up in direction of left carotid. Skin cooler; great thirst. *Phosph.* and *Spig.* alternately every three hours.

Evening of the 21st.—Palpitation and febrile symptoms increased; increase of pain in the region of the heart; breathing very hurried; pulse 145, irregular; great thirst. Continue *Acon.*

22d.—Palpitations less violent; pulse 130, sharp and intermittent; pain in region of heart diminished; breathing less hurried; frequent cough, attended with pain, but no expectoration; face flushed. Continue *Acon.*

23d.—Improvement in all the symptoms; has slept soundly for six hours, and wakened much refreshed, and wishing food; pulse 80, and regular; no pain in region of heart; palpitations nearly ceased; no thirst; cough less, attended with slight expectoration; dulness over back part of left lung diminished considerably; distinct crepitation; bowels regular. *Phosph.* every three hours.

24.—Pulse 72 ; child continues to improve in other respects. *Sulph.* every third hour.

26.—He was permitted to rise. Continue *Sulph.*

28.—Quite well. On examination, the sounds of the heart are perfectly natural ; the vesicular breathing over posterior part of left lung is still not strongly marked ; no cough.

### III. CYNANCHE MEMBRANACEA (*Croup*).

D. M., aged 6 months, of a scrofulous habit, had been under our treatment 5 days for an affection of the head, attended with symptoms of commencing Bronchitis; these yielded to *Acon.* and *Bell.* But on the 29th Nov., after exposure to cold, he was seized with pain in the windpipe, which was tender to pressure; short sharp cough ; croupy breathing. Pulse 130, *Hep. Sulph.*

30th.—No improvement in the cough ; slept none ; skin hot. P. 120, full. Great tenderness of the windpipe ; croupy respiration ; great difficulty of breathing. *Spong.* every hour, and next morning a dose of *Hep. Sulph.*

Dec. 1.—Great improvement ; breathing and cough easier ; pulse natural ; no croupy respiration. Continue *Spong.* and then *Hep. Sulph.*

On the 2d, the croup had nearly gone. *Sulph.*

On the 3d, the child was well.

### IV. RUBEOLA (*Measles and Inflammation of Air-Tubes.*)

M. B., aged 3, has been a very delicate child ; for two days past has been complaining and fretful.

Sept. 12.—The eyes are suffused, symptoms like cold in the head ; skin hot ; pulse, 100, full ; breathing hurried. *Acon.*

Sept. 13.—Has passed a restless night ; fever increased ; pulse 150 ; short, frequent, dry cough ; upon examining the chest, no dulness upon percussion ; sonorous râle heard over greater part of chest ; bowels relaxed ; slimy green evacuations ; skin dry and hot, covered (especially on the face and shoulders) with the eruption of measles ; appearance very sunken. *Acon.*, followed by *Metal. alb.*

Sept. 14.—Slept little ; diarrhœa ceased ; pulse 130 ; cough looser ; mucous râle heard over greater part of chest ; eruption continues well marked ; appearance very sunken. Continue *Metal. alb.*

On the 15th and 16th, the child continued much the same. *Metal. Alb.* and then *Sulph.*

18th.—Pulse 120; eruption begins to disappear; wheezing and difficult respiration; frequent cough, with copious expectoration; very weak. *Phosph.*

19th.—Improvement in all respects; pulse 100; skin much cooler and moist; expectoration and cough less; mucous râle not so audible; slept pretty well; begins to take a little nourishment. Continue *Phosph.*

20th.—Continued improvement. *Phosph.*

21st.—Skin cool; pulse 90; cough loose and diminishing; bowels very relaxed. *Metal. alb.*

22d.—Bowel complaint almost ceased; gradually gaining strength; cough much diminished. Continue *Metal. alb.*

23d.—Diarrhœa ceased; cough almost gone; sleeps well; appetite good; convalescent.

## V. MENINGITIS (*Inflammation of the Membranes of the Brain.*)

A. M., aged 4, a healthy-looking child, was in perfect health until the morning of the 4th June, when he was suddenly seized with vomiting. We visited him in the afternoon, when he presented the following symptoms:—Constant nausea, with repeated vomiting; tongue clean; no pain or tenderness in the abdomen; complains of great pain in the head, which is very hot, as is also all the skin; face flushed; pulse 130, full and hard; breathing hurried; no affection of the chest. *Acon.* every hour for 10 hours; then *Bell.*

5th.—After 2 doses of the *Acon.*, the skin became moister, and the vomiting ceased. Little sleep, and very disturbed; frequent raving during the night; convulsions and startings of the limbs, as if electric spark were passed through them; face flushed, eyes fixed and bright; rolls and buries his head constantly in the pillow. Great heat of the head, complains of excessive pain in the head; pulse 110, full; breathing less hurried. Continue *Acon.*, and then *Bell.*

6th.—Slept much better; no raving, or starting of the limbs; skin still hot; pain of head much diminished; appearance more natural; bowels opened; pulse 100, soft. Repeat *Bell.*

7th.—The patient is up, and playing on the floor. Our

surprise at so speedy a recovery was shared by a surgeon in the H. E. I. C. S., who attended along with us, in order practically to convince himself of the efficacy of homœopathic treatment. This case led him to a further examination, which happily ended in conversion.

#### VI. SCARLATINA MALIGNA (*Malignant Scarlet Fever*).

We narrate this case rather to exhibit the certain negative advantages of homœopathic treatment, than the more questioned, though not less real, positive ones.

M. S., aged 5 years, of a delicate constitution, and biliary-sanguineous temperament, was taken ill on the 5th of January. She complained of great pain in head and throat ; a reddish, slightly elevated eruption covered part of the back ; tongue was whitish ; the stools were frequent, of a dark colour, and fetid smell. Pulse 144 ; sleep disturbed by startings ; much delirium during the night. The throat is very red ; there is but little swelling of the tonsils. *Bell.* every two hours.

7th.—Very delirious during the night ; pulse 140 ; face flushed ; great swelling and pain of throat ; very sparse, papillary, pale eruption. *Bell.* to be continued.

8th.—Little change ; much swelling of throat ; great uneasiness ; tosses much ; passed a restless, sleepless night. *Merc. sol.* two doses.

9th.—Pulse 140, weaker ; tossed and raved the whole night ; throat very much swollen. *Metal. alb.* alternately with *Puls.*

10th.—Delirious, and restless all night ; lips and teeth quite black with sordes ; some dark purplish spots upon arm ; pulse 140, weak. Continue medicine.

11th.—Some blood passed from the throat last night ; pulse a little stronger, 140. Cont. *Metal. alb.*

12th.—A number of dark spots over great part of the body ; great prostration of strength ; a fetid smell, so offensive as to make it almost impossible for her mother to attend her. Continue medicine.

13th.—Much the same. Continue *Metal. alb.*

14th.—Looks better ; slept well. Pulse 140 ; sloughy discharge from the throat ; a good deal of diarrhoea last night. *Merc. sol.*

15th.—A great deal of delirium last night ; does not recognise her mother ; pulse 140, weak.

18th.—Pulse very quick and weak ; frequent evacuations, urine passed involuntarily. Numerous large purplish spots over the body. *Metal. alb.* every hour.

20th.—Somewhat better ; still many dark reddish spots, about the size of a split pea, and a very offensive putrid smell ; diarrhoea ceased. Continue *Metal. Alb.*

The extreme prostration arising from the long continuation of so violent a disease, with its many exhausting attendants, had for some time entirely excluded all hope of a successful issue, and justifies the remark we prefaced the case with, that by it the negative benefits of homœopathy were illustrated ; for we feel assured, that had any strong measures been used at its commencement, the patient's strength must have sunk under the combined operation of such remedies and the disease.

From this time there was slight improvement manifest, although the great weakness and the continual recurrence of these livid spots in various parts, scarcely permitted a hope of ultimate recovery.

The report of the 21st bears—Pulse 120, stronger ; no delirium ; spots continue to appear ; very deaf ; much discharge from ear.

The report of 23d was—A good deal of twitching of the muscles during the night ; looks better ; appetite beginning to return ; some bleeding from mouth, apparently from tongue, which is very ragged and painful. Pulse 120 ; a little stronger. *Amm. carb.*

24th.—A great many dark spots continue to appear on arms and legs. *Secale.*

25th.—Decided improvement ; has eaten some bread ; no more spots have appeared. Repeat the *Secale.*

27th.—Looks much better ; appetite bad ; bowels natural ; slept well. Pulse 120, of good strength ; no more spots ; tongue still sore.

30th.—Is much better ; appetite improving ; sleeps well ; looks cheerful ; still deaf, but hears better than formerly. Is now convalescent.

From this time, she gradually advanced to perfect health.

VII. CHOLERA (*British Cholera.*)

M. S., aged 64, a healthy-looking woman, states that, a fortnight ago, she caught cold ; a bowel-complaint, attended with griping, then came on, and has continued until now, although she has been taking castor oil, tincture of rhubarb, and laudanum. On the afternoon of the 16th Dec., the pain in the abdomen increased very much, and she observed that she was passing blood. We were called to see her on the 17th, about 2 o'clock, when we found her in great agony ; her cries were heard in the next house ; violent tearing, bearing-down pains in the abdomen, as if she were in labour, with burning pain in the passage. The pains are much increased on going to stool ; constant purging of blood and slimy matter ; great thirst ; abdomen swollen ; extremities very cold ; the pain comes in paroxysms, and is preceded by shivering ; constant efforts to vomit. She had received, prior to our visit, large doses of laudanum, but without the least benefit. These having failed, we were sent for, and administered *Merc. corr.* On returning at 8 in the evening, we found that, shortly after taking the medicine, the pains had commenced to subside, and that now the shivering, vomiting, and purging of blood, had ceased. She was lying quiet in bed, and only complained of griping pains. On the morning of the 18th she had another paroxysm of the pain, but this was immediately checked with *Merc. corr.* On the 20th she was quite well.

VIII. DIARRHŒA (*Bowel-Complaint, with vomiting.*)

J. O., aged 5, a delicate-looking child, was seized on the 11th Sept. with violent vomiting and purging, for which laudanum and castor oil, with various "powders," were given, but with no effect. The child was visited late on the afternoon of the 12th ; the last dose of allopathic medicine had been given on the evening of the 11th. The following was his state :—Constant attempts to vomit, with frequent vomiting,—even very cold water will not remain on the stomach ; frequent purging of slimy matter, attended with griping and straining ; tongue furred in the centre, dry, red at the tip ; tenderness over the

region of the stomach. *Acon.*, a dose every hour, to be followed up by *Metal. alb.*

13th.—The boy is up, and running about the room. The mother states that, after two doses of the Aconite, the vomiting ceased, and shortly after the purging.

#### IX. DIARRHŒA.

R. B., aged  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years, of a delicate appearance, was seen December 13th.

Has been ill for three weeks with bowel-complaint. The discharge is watery and fetid; he cries much at stool; pulse quick and small; skin hot; screams from pain in abdomen; vomits always after eating. *Veratr.* 3 doses.

15th.—Diarrhœa a great deal better; does not vomit.

16th.—Diarrhœa and vomiting quite gone.

#### X. DIARRHŒA.

D. A.,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years old, of a lymphatic temperament; admitted 8th February.

Has been subject for a year and a half to frequent diarrhœa.

Is at present affected with violent diarrhœa; has a stool every 5 or 10 minutes; the discharge is thin and watery, with occasional pain in abdomen; inclination to strain, after discharge has ceased; abdomen hard and swollen. *Ant. crud.* 3 doses.

9th.—The diarrhœa is greatly abated; he is much livelier.

10th.—Quite well.

#### XI. DIARRHŒA.

R. R., aged 16 months, always been healthy, seen January 8th.—Has been for some days affected with diarrhœa. On the morning of the 7th, violent vomiting came on, which has ever since continued; flushes often, then turns pale; sleeps ill; starts much. Has taken calomel and castor oil, without any benefit. *Ipecac.* 2 doses.

9th.—Vomiting and diarrhœa both ceased; slept well; pulse quick.

On the 10th, the diarrhœa returned. He got *Merc. Sol.*; and on the 12th he was quite well, and continued so.

## XII. DIARRHŒA.

D. M., aged 53, generally healthy, of a haemorrhagic diathesis. Had diarrhoea some time ago; subject to throbbing in stomach. About 2 o'clock this morning, after usual diet, attacked with violent pain in stomach, attended with constant vomiting and diarrhoea; tongue swollen, and white; pulse 100. *Nux rom.*, a dose every two hours.

19th.—Only one well-formed stool to-day; in other respects, quite well.

## XIII. DIARRHŒA.

M. A. M., generally healthy. Admitted 23d May. Was taken ill a week ago with purging, which has continued ever since. It comes on during sleep; the abdomen is a good deal swelled; pulse 120; is addicted to eating dirt; a great relish for pipe-clay and every thing of that sort; has no appetite, and is much emaciated. *Merc. sol.* 2 doses.

28th.—Diarrhoea a great deal better; appetite returning. *Phosph.* 3 doses.

30th.—Quite well.

XIV. HÆMORRHOIDS (*Piles*).

The following is one of many similar cases, illustrating the success derived from homœopathic medicine in an attack of piles.

C. M., aged 36, of a nervous temperament, was, on the 28th Dec., after fatigue, attacked with a "fit of the piles;" this was the first attack she ever had, but she had long been subject to dyspepsia and giddiness. On the 29th, when prescribed for, she complained of pain in the forehead, attended with sickness; tongue white and furred, with constant desire to vomit, and frequent vomiting.

The hæmorrhoidal tumours protrude, and are much swollen; unable almost to move. No bleeding; violent cutting pains in the fundament; severe pain in the loins, as if the back were bruised and broken; sensation as if the hip-joints were dislocated; much troubled with risings of wind, as if there was a ball in the throat; great desire to weep; skin hot; pulse quick. Two powders of *Ignat.* and one of *Nux rom.*

30th.—Pain very much diminished, able to walk pretty

easily. The same medicines were repeated; on the 3d Jan. the piles had quite disappeared, the patient only complained of great weakness, for which *Chin.* was given; on the 6th Jan. she was quite well and at work.

### XV. HÆMORRHOIDS (*Piles*).

Mrs C. aged 54; of a sanguineous lymphatic temperament, seen July 10th; generally healthy, has had eight children. For twenty-eight years been subject to hæmorrhoids. Three years ago, the catamenia suddenly stopped; from this time the hæmorrhoids became excessively troublesome: they are very large, feel "like grapes;" very painful; and bleed, sometimes profusely. They have annoyed her every day more or less for three years, frequently confining her to bed the greater part of the day; bowels regular; slight pain in chest, tickling cough, with inclination to vomit; occasional pain in shoulders. Tried castor oil, pitch-pills, and a great variety of other medicines by the advice of different medical men. *Nux v.*

18th.—Piles have been a great deal better, only bled a very little one day; do not come down so much; bad taste in mouth. Piles have a tickling and pricking sensation, not so much pain. *Sepia.*

29th.—Piles are much better. Feet swollen. *Metal alb.*

August 11th.—Has had no discharge of blood, no pains in piles; they still feel hard. *Lach.*

28th.—A great deal better. Piles have almost entirely disappeared. *Ant. Crud.* followed by *Lach.*, *Sepia*, *Sulph.*, *Nux v.*

November 12th.—Up to this period, has remained perfectly free of piles, which she has not been for three years before.

### XVI. CHRONIC VOMITING.

W. H., aged 26. A shoemaker; of a nervous lymphatic temperament; an anxious, dispirited, languid, pale countenance, was admitted on the 3d of March. States that he has always been rather delicate, and that last year he was treated for six months at one of the Dispensaries, on account of pain in the breast and vomiting; about six weeks ago, was attacked with shivering, after exposure to cold and fatigue,

attended with a sense of coldness at the breast. Vomiting occurs at least once, frequently oftener in the course of the day. It is usually worst in the evening ; it begins with nausea, and the matter vomited is a blackish liquid. There is no pain in stomach on pressure, but a sense of heat. He has never vomited blood ; he has no headache ; his appetite is pretty good, and he has no pain in abdomen. His sleep is disturbed, unrefreshing, attended with sad dreams ; his spirits low. There is great weakness, which has been gradually increasing for some time. Last year it became so bad as to disable him from working. Has been obliged to give up his occupation, from the severity of his sufferings. He got *Nux v.* 3 doses.

7th.—Has only vomited once since he was here ; great pain in bowels, has not slept well ; spirits better ; mouth dry. 3 doses of *Calc.*

10th.—Has vomited one night since he was here ; great pain of chest, a good deal of dry cough ; general health improved, does not sleep well, no pain in bowels, since he was here ; rather costive. *Metal. alb.*, 2 doses.

14th.—Vomited a little one night, after having undergone great fatigue ; general health improved ; slept better, has now no pain in chest ; spirits much better. He was ordered two doses of *Ipecac.*, with an intermediate one of *Metal. alb.*

31st.—Has not vomited above twice since he was here ; food returns into the mouth occasionally ; sleeps a great deal better ; spirits are much better. *Bryon.*

April 18.—Has not vomited at all since he was here ; is in other respects quite well. Has returned to his work ; and has not suffered by the confinement and stooping posture that his occupation requires.

## XVII. DYSPEPSIA AND CHRONIC VOMITING.

A. B., aged 41. Lymphatic temperament ; pale unhealthy appearance ; a tailor. Admitted 20th October.

Had been in good health until three years ago, when his "stomach became affected." At present there is pain in forehead whenever the stomach is at all deranged ; this is worst in the morning ; the pain is constant, and relieved by the open air ; appetite capricious ; much annoyed by flatulence and pain

in stomach after eating ; the food returns sour to the mouth ; vomits almost every morning, has done so for years ; matter vomited is green ; taste in mouth sour ; bowels costive ; perspires easily. *Sulph.* 2 doses.

25th.—Considerable improvement ; headache gone. *Nux v.*, 3 doses.

Nov. 3d.—Vomited a good deal, chiefly in morning ; great itching of skin, worse in bed. *Kreas.* 2 doses.

9th.—Has had no vomiting for a week ; much better in every respect. Continue *Kreas.*

16th.—Is now quite free of all uneasiness of stomach ; has not vomited for a fortnight ; considers himself quite cured of the dyspepsia.

### CHRONIC HEADACHES.

We select the following cases of headaches of long standing, as illustrating the success that may attend the use of homœopathic medicines in a class of complaints, which, from their being regarded, for the most part, as rather symptomatic and secondary, than as the consequence of a primary disorder of the affected organ, are combated by remedies which act on a distant part, to the great annoyance and weakening of the patient, and often without any great alleviation of his sufferings.

### XVIII. CHRONIC HEADACHE.

W. S., aged 11. Of a nervous temperament, and delicate frame. Was admitted on the 14th of March. Except from general delicacy and children's diseases, has not suffered much till lately. About four months ago began to be affected with severe pain in the forehead ; worst in the morning ; relieved by binding the head ; the pain has returned every morning for a long time back, and has generally continued for the greater part of the day ; appetite is rather voracious ; there is a bad taste in the mouth, and he is subject to sour risings after eating. Tongue clean ; bowels generally rather costive. Has taken castor-oil and other purgatives, but without any relief to the headaches. He got three doses of *Coloc.*

Report of the 20th was, that the sour risings had not been felt, and the bad taste in the mouth was gone ; the headache

was now felt about the crown of the head, and was worse at night. *Puls.* 2 doses.

On 25th the report was—The head has been much better these two last days, and is quite well to-day; he remained perfectly free from headache until the end of June, more than two months; at this period he had a slight return of his headache, for which he got one dose of *Sepia*: and when seen at the end of August, had recovered and remained perfectly well.

### XIX. CHRONIC HEADACHE AND DYSPEPSIA.

J. B., a female, aged 50, of a bilious temperament, was admitted on the 22d January. Has been subject for a year to a sharp severe pain in forehead, chiefly at night; prevents sleep. The pain is relieved when she rises in the morning, but does not entirely leave. She has a slightly sour taste in the mouth in the morning; her appetite is bad; much troubled with flatulence, bowels very costive; is subject to haemorrhoids; has taken a great variety of medicine, but never got any relief from the headaches. *Hep. Sulph.*

25th.—Headache, flatulency, and the other symptoms of stomach derangement improved. *Hep. Sulph.* to be repeated.

Feb. 1st. Headache better, appetite also better, flatulence gone. *Hep. Sulph.* to be repeated.

8th.—Can now sleep at night a great deal better; sour taste gone. *Nux v.* 3 doses.

15th.—Is now perfectly free from headache, and well in every respect.

### XX. CHRONIC HEADACHE.

E. K., aged 65, enjoyed good health until she was about 20, when she began to be troubled with headaches and disordered stomach. Ever since then, a period of thirty-five years, the headaches have continued; all manner of remedies have been tried, but without success. Eight years ago she had inflammation of the brain.

She complains of frequent headaches, acute pain over left eye and root of nose; sensation as if the eye were forcibly drawn back; relieved by exercise. Experiences also occasionally a feeling of weight in the back of the head, with sensa-

tion upon rising up, as if something fell forward within the head. Appetite good, occasional uneasiness in the stomach after eating. After the headaches leave, the disorder of the stomach is increased; pain and tenderness in the pit of the stomach. Jan. 12th. *Hep. Sulph.*

25th.—Until to-day has been feeling much better. Headache less frequent, and less severe; no tenderness in the pit of the stomach after the headache. *Hep. Sulph.*

Feb. 7.—Only one headache, and that slight. *Sil.*

22.—Continued improvement. *Hep. Sulph.*

March 4th.—Has caught cold.—*Ipec.* and *Con.* until March 24th, when the cough had nearly ceased, the headaches had slightly returned; but the stomach is never disordered after them. *Calc.*

April 5th.—Again caught cold. *Ipec.* and *Nux v.*

May 5th.—Has had only one headache since last date. General health good. *Sulph.*

June 17th. Has had no headache; since then we have seen the patient, and she continues quite free of headaches.

## XXI. VERTIGO AND DYSPEPSIA.

Mrs O., aged 36, of a sanguineous temperament, states that she has been very healthy until her last confinement, which was about two years ago; since then she has been troubled with disorder of the stomach, giddiness, and inability to engage in her ordinary occupations. She has taken much medicine, but without any benefit. These few days past the symptoms have increased, has had several convulsive fits on the 19th, and also, this morning the 20th March, had, an hour before we visited her, a convulsive fit, and threatens to be attacked with another. The fits commence with a feeling of stupidity and dizziness, preceded by frequent and long fits of yawning. The face becomes the colour of clay; there is beating of the carotids, then convulsive action of all parts of the body, and frequently, towards the termination, foaming at the mouth. She has now recovered from the fit, but complains of great stupidity and vertigo, with redness of the face.

The symptoms of which she constantly complains are,—giddiness, with inability to exertion, bitter taste in the morn-

ing, appetite bad, food turns sour, especially animal food ; occasionally vomiting. Constant flatulence, attended with colic, and frequently sensation in the throat, as if she were about to be choked. Catamenia regular.

Constant feeling of stupidity, and depression of spirits. *Bell.*

21st. — No return of the fits — giddiness almost gone. *Nux v.*

April 13th.—States that she feels better than she has done for many years ; for the last five days has had no giddiness ; appetite good, disposition cheerful, able to go about, and engage in her occupations. Complains now only of flatulence ; formerly the wind mounted in the throat, causing pain as if about to choke ; that has now ceased, and the flatulency is confined to the abdomen. *Carb. v.*

19th.—Has had no return of giddiness ; scarcely any flatulence ; patient states that she has not been so well for two years. *Nux v.*

The patient happened to call again on the 15th June, when she stated that she enjoyed perfect health.

## XXII. HEADACHE.

Mrs C., aged 26 ; biliary-nervous temperament ; seen on the 22d of December. Has long been very delicate ; is subject to severe headaches. It is about four weeks ago since she was confined, and about two weeks afterwards, she had a copious uterine discharge ; six days ago, when washing, was attacked with severe pain in the forehead, with sensation as if a nail were driven in above the nose, the pain extending at the same time over the eyes ; bowels open ; bad taste in mouth ; the pain was so severe as to confine her to bed, and she had taken a good deal of medicine without experiencing any relief. *Hep. Sulph.*, 3 doses.

23d.—The pain went away immediately after taking first powder, and she remained free of it until five o'clock this morning, when the headache returned and continued until 12 noon. There is some nausea ; bad taste in mouth ; the eyes are very sensitive to the light, and water much. *Nux. v.* 3 doses.

24th.—Was perfectly well after taking the first powder until nine o'clock this morning, when the headache returned, but not so severely. *Ignat.*

25th.—Headache almost entirely gone ; slept well ; feels in other respects quite well.

26th.—Quite well.

### XXIII. DYSPEPSIA.

It is frequently stated that the homœopathic cures, more especially those of stomach complaints, are attributable solely to the regulation of the diet. But the diet of the Dispensary patients being of the simplest character, is susceptible of little or no change. The only articles we have been in the habit of prohibiting are strong tea, coffee, and spirits.

Mrs G., aged 44, has been labouring under stomach complaint for eighteen months ; she complains of disagreeable clammy taste in the morning ; tongue white, no appetite. Food turns sour, sour risings, with heartburn and vomiting, sensation of weakness and sinking in the stomach, followed by flushing of the face, and then perspiration all over the body. Monthly periods pretty regular, but becoming every time more scanty, preceded and followed by a copious white discharge ; swelling of the feet at night ; sleeps badly, frightful dreams ; disposition, naturally cheerful, has become listless and irritable. On the 5th of August *Puls.* was given, with directions to abstain from tea and coffee.

Aug. 11th.—Has had no vomiting, acidity of stomach much less, flushing of the face diminished ; sleeps well, no dreams. Continue *Puls.*

18th.—With the exception of want of appetite, all the other symptoms have disappeared. *Nux v.* After this she got *Sulph.* and on the 20th Sept. was discharged cured.

### XXIV. DYSPEPSIA.

Mrs M., aged 48, has been labouring for four months under disorder of the stomach, attributable to grief ; she complains of dull heavy pain in the forehead, particularly in the morning. No appetite ; great thirst ; tongue foul and dry ; burn-

ing pain in the stomach ; after eating, sensation of load in the stomach, and heartburn ; bowels regular ; feeling of tightness round lower part of chest ; pain and weakness in the back, principally in the morning ; dull pain in the legs, with cramp chiefly in bed ; frequent copious perspiration ; pulse small and weak. Oct. 5th, *Nux. v.* was given. On the 7th, *Ignat.* On the 8th, all the symptoms had improved ; complains most of burning pain in the stomach ; for this *Met. alb.* was given. On the 11th, *Puls.* was given. On the 14th, *Calc.* On the 18th, she stated that she was quite well ; no headache, no burning pain in the stomach, and appetite good. Some time after this, the patient reported herself as keeping quite well.

#### CONSTIPATION.

In no disease is the insufficiency of ordinary practice and the efficacy of homœopathic so well shewn as in chronic constipation. Many individuals of a costive habit since their childhood, others dating it from some acute disease or disorder of the stomach, find no relief for their ailment under ordinary treatment, except the frequent use of aperient medicine, which in no case cures the tendency to costiveness, but in every instance increases it, and in many cases produces disorders of the stomach, haemorrhoids, &c. Keep the bowels open and you are healthy, is a general belief ; but likewise a popular delusion. Daily experience proves, that purgatives can never cure habitual costiveness, but only increase it. Even under homœopathic treatment, the cure is often difficult and tedious ; but this latter mode does not injure the general health which the former does. The following case, the only one of chronic constipation we had to treat in Dispensary practice, shews how successfully, and with what ease to the patient, the disease may be treated. In addition to this case, many of the patients labouring under dyspepsia were likewise of a costive habit, which was also removed with the other complaints of the patient.

#### XXV. CONSTIPATION.

Mrs F., aged 36, enjoyed pretty good health until seven years back, when she was confined of her fifth child : at this

time she was attacked with violent hæmorrhage from piles, which was treated with large doses of turpentine. The piles continued to increase, and she became affected with obstinate constipation ; for this latter affection she was advised to take purgatives, and had been in the constant habit of resorting to them until the irritation and bad health produced by them led her to use enemata instead. These have been used for some months, but are very inefficient, and cause great pain.

When first seen, on July the 14th, the following were her symptoms :—Want of appetite, bitter taste in the morning ; suffers constantly from flatulency, especially after eating ; food turns sour. Great tenderness of the abdomen ; bowels very costive ; no evacuation, unless by means of enemata, frequently repeated. In addition to these she has internal piles, which discharge blood and mucus, especially after an evacuation ; complains of constant pain in the lower part of spine, with burning lancinating pains in the passage. *Nux v.* 2 doses. Four days after commencing the medicine the bowels were opened without the enema, and continued so daily without the enema, and attended with less pain. In the commencement of August *Nux v.* was again given. Until the 13th October the bowels continued regular independent of injections ; the general health also improved. *Ignat.* and *Nux v.*

Oct. 14.—Bowels continue regular ; still suffers much from the piles. *Sulph.* then *Nux. v.* At the date of this report the bowels continue regular ; she is still under treatment for the piles.

#### DISEASES OF WOMEN.

If an ordinary practitioner were asked what class of affections he can least certainly control,—although, perhaps, the question might make him pause, as there crowded in upon his recollection a confused multitude of baffling diseases, yet we venture to predict that the answer would be—uterine derangements. Of medicines that act with any degree of certainty on the uterus, he would say,—“ We are totally ignorant ; and there is no class in the treatment of which we run the risk of doing greater harm, and have less confidence of doing good. The measures we employ are all very indirect, and from their in-

directness require to be proportionally severe. The consequence is often disheartening, seldom satisfactory."

On the other hand, we, as homœopathic practitioners, should say, that there are few classes of affections which we undertake with greater confidence, and the result of which is more satisfactory.

## XXVI. SUPPRESSION OF MENSES.

M. S., bilious-nervous temperament, ætat 27; admitted June 2d. Had a child about eleven months ago; menses returned, for the first time after delivery, about a week ago. Four days ago, after exposure to cold and wet, the menses suddenly stopped; very generally used to last eight days. She has taken senna and salts without any benefit.

There is a constant gnawing pain over region of uterus, which feels enlarged; there is great weakness. Slight pain in forehead, with confusion of sight, as if a kind of darkness had come on. Tongue clean; no pain of back; makes water freely. *Puls.* 3 dozes.

3d.—Pain is quite gone, except weakness, feels perfectly well. She remained quite well.

## XXVII. UTERINE DERANGEMENT, AND PARTIAL PARALYSIS.

J. O., ætat 21, of a lymphatic temperament; pale and languid appearance. Was admitted on the 15th of November 1841.

As an infant, was very small, and was exposed to much cold. When 7 years old, began to feel weakness in the lower part of the back, which extended itself to the legs; she was unable to walk or stand without holding. Had numbness of the legs, and constant coldness of the feet. The numbness usually came on at night; occasional inability to use the arms. The spine was blistered about fourteen years ago. The blister was allowed to remain on for some days, and was kept open for three or four months; there is a deep scar on the place. At present there is constant bad sour taste in the mouth; pain on swallowing; no appetite; swelling of the stomach after eating, with occasional pain in it; pain and swelling of abdomen; bowels costive.

Menstruated at 16 ; discharge always irregular and scanty ; has been wholly absent for three years.

There is much pain on pressure of the upper dorsal portion of the spine. She has not been able to walk without assistance for twelve years ; her limbs tremble when she attempts it, and she is in danger of falling. She has occasional severe pain in different parts of her head. She is subject to attacks of asthma, and has a constant sense of constriction of chest ; subject to palpitation of heart ; sleep little, and unrefreshing, with constant frightful dreams. *Bell.* 2 doses.

She was not seen again until May 23d, so that the treatment may be said to have commenced at this date. *Puls.*

June 2d.—Stomach does not swell so much ; respiration hurried ; no blowing in carotid.

7th.—No change. *Sepia*, 2 doses.

15th.—Respiration not so confined, still great weakness in limbs. *Ignat.* 3 doses.

7th.—Menses have returned for the first time for more than three years. Pain sometimes in back, sometimes in forepart of head ; great weakness in arms, trembling over the body. *China*, 2 doses.

July 15th.—Has been very weak, a great deal of pain between shoulders. Menses lasted a week ; attributed her weakness to this. *Phosph.* 3 doses.

From this time, with doses of *Phosph.*, *Sepia*, *Met. alb.*, *Calc.*, *Puls.*, she gradually improved. The menses returned regularly, and by the 10th of October she was able to walk for two hours without much fatigue. Her respiration was natural ; she slept well ; and, by her mother's account, is much better than she has been for twelve years. She can move her arms freely, and has now no numbness in her limbs.

### XXVIII. MENORRHAGIA (*Profuse Menstruation.*)

M. M., aged 23, of a full habit of body. Visited the 11th December ; states that she was formerly very regular in her menstrual periods, but that, about ten weeks past, when menstruating, she was exposed to cold, the discharge increased, and has continued ever since. She is now so weak as to be hardly able

to walk. There is a constant dark bloody discharge, attended with acute shooting pain in the right side below the ribs. This pain is not constant; is brought on by making water. Frequent sensation as of a ball in the throat, considerable flatulence. Has had also expectoration of blood for now three weeks, with frequent hard cough. *Bell.*, 2 doses.

12th.—Discharge and pain much diminished. Continue *Bell.*

14th.—Discharge nearly ceased, pain gone. Expectoration of blood ceased; cough much diminished; complains of weakness in the back. *Plat.*

18th.—Has returned to her situation quite well.

## XXIX. AMENORRHœA (*Suppression of Menstrual Discharge*).

M. G., aged 16, a sickly-looking girl, states that she suffers from constant heavy pain in the forehead, which is increased by movement, and relieved by rest, affecting the vision, with black specks before the eyes. When the headache gets better, feels as if she were in a stupor. Bowels very costive. Has not menstruated for three months; previous to that was regular. Palpitation of the heart excited by the least exercise or excitement; blowing sound in left carotid; pulse at present 120. She states that it varies much, sometimes quick, sometimes slow. Lower extremities swell much, especially towards night.

*Puls.* then *Sepia*, were given on Sept. 12. On the 26th, no improvement. *Calc.*, then *Puls.*

Oct. 10.—*Ferr.*

24th.—Little improvement. *Puls.*

Nov. 4.—Great improvement in all the symptoms. Continue *Puls.*

15th.—Menstruated about a week back, and states that she is now free of headaches; her bowels regular; and every respect quite well. Dec. Has again menstruated.

## XXX. ASTHMA.

J. B., aged 31 years, of a nervous habit, states that, as a child, she had good health; but from about the age of 17, has been delicate. From that period, has complained of im-

paired digestion ; for the last seven years, she has laboured under asthma, which is a little better in very cold weather, but never entirely leaves her. She has been under the care of many physicians both in this country and abroad, but without any relief to her sufferings.

When admitted on September 1, the following were her symptoms :—Subject to rheumatic pains over the scalp, during which she is unable to comb her hair ; also liable to pressive pain over the left eye. Appetite bad, constant gnawing dragging pain in stomach ; worst at night, increased after eating ; great flatulency ; bowels costive, and have been so for years, requiring constantly to take aperient pills.

Menstruation frequent, irregular, and scanty, attended with colicky pains ; leucorrhœal discharge between the periods ; at these times the asthma is worse. Constant cough, principally at night, lasting from one o'clock to six, attended with great difficulty of breathing ; obliged to sit up in bed, and often to have the window open ; can never sit in a room unless the door or window is open. Cough attended with copious expectoration like starch. Feeling of weakness and uneasiness all over the chest. Constant fluttering at the heart, with feeling of anxiety. The chest, upon percussion, gives out a very clear sound ; musical râles over various parts of the chest. All the symptoms are increased at night ; sleeps very badly, never above an hour or two at a time. Disposition cheerful. *Sulph.*

10th.—Pain in stomach better ; bowels quite regular ; have not been so for a long time (no means being used but the *Sulph.*) ; cough less, breathing easier, still very sleepless. Continue *Sulph.*

16th.—Pain in stomach greatly better ; flatulence much diminished ; bowels regular. Cough and breathing easier ; expectoration less ; sleeps better, expectoration less. Continue *Sulph.*

22d.—Continued improvement. *Metal. alb.*

Oct. 1st.—Continued improvement. *Metal. alb.*

15th.—*Sulph.*

30th.—Complains now only of a little nervousness, easily agitated. In other respects quite well. *Ignat.*

She was again seen in the end of November, when she reported herself *perfectly well*.

## XXXI. ASTHMA.

Mrs P., aged 72, enjoyed good health until fifteen years ago, when she began to be troubled with a cough and asthmatic attacks. Three years ago she had a stroke of palsy, from which she has recovered considerably, but since then has been very liable to cramp in the side. The following were her symptoms when she applied at the Dispensary, November 25th.

Inflammation of the edges of the eyelids. Bad taste in the morning like copper; bowels regular, frequent flatulent attacks with colicky pains. Very liable to cramp-like pains, which commence at the haunch, shooting down the thigh and through the lower part of the abdomen. They can only be relieved, she says, by opiate injections; she labours under an attack at present. For this *Cocc.* was administered, and shortly after taking it she got great relief. On the 26th she was quite free of these pains. She complains of palpitation of the heart, attended with great pain, especially after coughing. Frequent spasmodic cough, with great difficulty of breathing, brought on by doing any thing; worst at night, especially between one and two o'clock. Copious expectoration of white phlegm, like boiled starch. At night, feeling of weight and oppression on the chest. Asthma worst when the flatulence exists. From last date to the 24th December, she got successively *Carb. v.*, *Cup. Nux v.*, with occasionally *Ipecac.*, to relieve the asthmatic attacks when urgent.

Under the use of those remedies she improved very much, but on the 24th she had caught cold from going out, and was attacked with feverish symptoms, quick pulse, dry skin, with stitch in the side, unable to draw a long breath, excessive pain on coughing. This was soon relieved by *Bryon.* On the 3d of January her cough was reported almost gone; there was no expectoration, but still difficulty of breathing, coming on generally between one and two o'clock in the morning. She states that she has experienced great benefit from the medicines. From the 3d of January until the end of March she got at different times *Lobel.*, *Sulph.*, *Ipec.*, *Met. alb.*, *Nux v.*, with continued improvement. From the end of March until the month of July she got very little medicine, viz. *Lach.*, *Sulph.*,

*Met. alb.*, *Lobel.* She had had, during that time, only one attack of the cramp, which was also relieved speedily by *Cocc.* Towards end of July she called at the Dispensary, and stated, "That she had not been so well for ten years, and that she had walked two miles without resting, which she did not recollect having done for many a day."

In the beginning of September she had bowel complaint, which was cured in two days with *Merc.* On recovering from this she again visited the Dispensary, and stated that she was free of cough, that her breathing was comparatively very easy, and that she had had no return of the cramps or any asthmatic attack.

### XXXII. TUSSIS CHRONICA.—(*Chronic Cough.*)

This case is interesting, as illustrating the extreme simplicity of the means that are sometimes successful in subduing tedious and troublesome affections.

M. R., aged 60; temperament biliary-nervous; of a sound constitution; was admitted on the 23d of December. She stated that five weeks ago she caught cold, which began with shivering, followed by a loose cough, produced by a sense of tickling in the lower part of the trachea. This cough has continued ever since. She has tried various cough mixtures, but the cough has got worse notwithstanding; latterly she has taken no medicines. The cough is attended with a salt, greenish expectoration; it is worse at night, frequently preventing all repose, and producing great breathlessness. The pulse is 120; there is slight headache; the appetite is capricious; tongue white. *Natr. m.*, 2 doses.

24th.—Had a very good night; cough not nearly so troublesome; expectoration looser; slept well; says she has not been so well for a long time. *Suplh.*, then *Natr. m.*

27th.—Has now almost no cough at night; sleeps much better; expectoration tougher; pulse 108. Continue *Natr.*

Jan. 1st.—Says she is now quite well; the cough never occurs at night, and her strength is returning. She says she never experienced so much good from medicine.

XXXIII. PHTHISIS PULMONUM (*Pulmonary Consumption*).

R. F., aged 38, of a nervous-sanguineous temperament, emaciated and feeble, tall, was admitted June 3d.

Last December was attacked with influenza, from which he never entirely recovered, as a constant pain remained in left side, for which he was cupped and blistered; soon after this he had spitting of blood, and became affected with a short dry cough, which has been getting gradually worse. He was seen by a distinguished physician about the end of April, and the case was pronounced beyond recovery. The symptoms on his admission were as follows:—Pain in head, chiefly over forehead; worse when he lies down at night; not relieved by the open air. Dryness of the mouth, and sweet taste in the morning; no appetite; bowels regular; subject to piles. His nose used to bleed in his youth.

Short irritating cough; worse in morning and evening, attended with a little sweetish expectoration of a whitish-yellow colour; subject to smart shooting pain below the shoulder-blade of the left side. There is dulness on percussion below the inferior angle of left scapula, and a small mucous rattle over the greater part of left side; subject to occasional palpitation of the heart, and distressing breathlessness on making exertion; perspires a good deal at night, and has lost much flesh and strength since his cough began. Pulse 100. *Phosph.*

14th.—Pain has not been so bad, nor has the cough been so severe, expectoration somewhat blackish; a great deal of pain between shoulders; does not perspire quite so much; eats more. Pulse 92. Has slept a great deal better. *Phosph.*

22d.—Cough a great deal better, expectoration much the same; a great deal of pain all round chest; does not perspire so much; appetite and spirits both improved; a great deal of pain between the eyes. *Hep. Sulph.*

July 5th.—Cough nearly gone; a little thick expectoration, but much less; still great pain all round chest; perspires very little; severe headache; great soreness round loins. Pulse 104. *Hep. Sulph.* 3 doses.

18th.—Has been much better ; cough very nearly quite gone. Pulse 80. *Sepia*.

August 1st.—Feels a good deal better ; a great deal of pain across back, and in breathing. Expectoration diminished. *Bryon.*, then *Metal. alb.*.

11th.—Continued improvement ; pain through chest much better ; can draw a full breath without pain ; perspiration diminished ; pulse 100. *Metal. alb.* two doses.

30th.—Pain of chest improved ; expectoration rather increased, whitish grey ; a good deal of pain on taking a full breath ; perspiration diminished ; not much improvement in strength ; occasional palpitation of heart, but not so bad as before. *Sulph.* 3 doses.

Sept. 7th.—Pain of chest gone ; no pain on breathing ; feels stronger. Continue *Sulph.*

The treatment was here interrupted for ten days by an attack of diarrhoea, which was epidemic at the time. The report of September 26th gives—pain in loins, increased by moving, and worst in the morning. *Bryon.*

Oct. 3d.—There has been great improvement in strength and general health, he has been quite free of all pain of chest for some weeks ; pulse 80, natural. There is now no cough nor expectoration. There is now no dulness on percussion, and free vesicular respiration over the whole chest. Was seen on 4th of December, and although the weather had been very cold, yet there was no return of cough or pain of chest, and his strength was rapidly improving. He looks upon himself now as perfectly well, and called to report himself cured.

#### XXXIV. DISEASE OF HEART.

J. W., aged 8 years, of a lymphatic temperament, and delicate appearance ; admitted August 20th. Has always been delicate ; subject from his earliest childhood to palpitation of the heart ; attended with flushing of the face. He now sleeps very ill ; starts, and awakes in sudden fear. Bowels alternately loose and confined ; stools very offensive ; no cough ; difficulty of breathing on making any exertion, and when feverish, which he generally is during the night. Has been getting worse for the last three months ; at present he looks

very pale, thin, and weak ; his lips are swollen and his breathing very hurried ; he is very fretful and uneasy. The heart is much enlarged ; it beats below the 7th rib ; the clapping sounds are distinct ; there is no bellows sound, and no regurgitation. Pulse 120. *Spig.* 3 doses.

23d.—Palpitation of heart has been decidedly less. The lips are very dry ; tongue generally white, but red at back part ; is not so feverish at night ; rests a great deal better. *Met. Alb.* and *Spig.*

Sept. 30th.—Has now no flushing of the face, and sleeps sound and well. Breathing natural ; pulse 92. Not nearly so much palpitation of heart ; can now run about and play, was obliged before to keep perfectly quiet, as the exercise brought on the palpitation and difficulty of breathing ; he looks greatly improved ; he is no longer fretful.

Visited Nov. 14th.—Found to be continuing well.

#### SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

##### XXXV. TABES MEENTERICA (*Scrofulous Diseases of the Abdomen*).

M. C., aged 4 years ; of a lymphatic temperament, and scrofulous constitution ; was admitted on the 15th of December. As an infant had been subject to convulsions, and has always been rather delicate.

Her appearance is pale and exhausted, her face of an earthy hue ; there is much wasting of the limbs. About four months ago she was attacked with a cough, attended with much thick yellow expectoration ; the respiration is stifled ; the cough is accompanied by pain in heart, and there is a desire to vomit after it. The cough is worse in morning. The chest emits a clear sound on being percussed ; there are loud mucous râles audible over the whole of it. There is no appetite ; the tongue is coated white. The abdomen much distended ; complains of shooting pain through abdomen ; and subject to diarrhoea alternating with costiveness. She flushes much at night, becomes restless and feverish, and sweats a great deal ; sleeps very sound ; but moans in her sleep, and grinds her teeth ; is very listless, sleepy, and peevish in the day-time. Has been getting worse for some time. *Sulph.* 2 pulv.

16th.—Has not eaten for a long time with so much appetite as to-day. Cough and oppression of chest unabated. *Ipecac*, then *Calc.* 3 doses.

25th.—Appearance much improved ; cough greatly better ; pain in abdomen less ; not so drowsy in the day time. *Phosph.* 3 doses.

January 10th.—Greatly improved ; abdomen not so swollen ; appetite much better ; cough nearly gone ; still a good deal of rough mucous rattle in chest. From this time, under the use of *Sulph.*, *Phosph.*, and *Calc.*, she continued gradually to advance to complete recovery. When last seen in October, she was quite well and strong.

### XXXVI. GLANDULAR AFFECTIONS.

M. F., aged 40, a delicate-looking woman, labours under swelling of the neck, attributed to cold and fatigue. She had a similar attack two years back, which terminated in suppuration of the glands.

On the 27th April she applied at the Dispensary, complaining of great pain in the neck, which she is unable to move, the glands being much swollen and red, painful to the touch. It appears as if she had erysipelas of one side of the neck. *Bell.*

29th April.—The redness and pain have disappeared ; still swelling of the glands, but no tenderness on pressure. *Dulc.*

May 2d.—Cured.

### XXXVII.

J. S., aged 15 months, a sickly scrofulous child, has great swelling of the glands of the neck, and especially of those under the chin ; the skin over them is red, and painful to the touch ; the bowels have been relaxed since birth ; voracious appetite, but food passes undigested. Feb. 6th, *Sulph.* 2 doses.

Feb. 10th.—The glands are larger, and the one under the chin appears as if about to burst. *Hep. Sulph.* 2 doses.

Feb. 17th.—The swelling has much diminished ; general health much improved.

Feb. 24th.—Swelling gone ; bowels natural ; appearance much healthier.

### XXXVIII.

D. B., aged 9 months, a healthy-looking child, was observed

last night (Nov. 8th) to be very restless and feverish. At present (Nov. 9th) the skin is moist and soft; pulse moderate. There is a swelling about the size of a hen's egg under the angle of the jaw of the right side; it is somewhat elastic, painful, red at lower part; no fluctuation perceptible; bowels relaxed. *Merc.* 2 doses.

Nov. 15th.—Swelling quite gone.

### XXXIX. *General Derangement.*

C. M. aged 20. Of a lymphatic-nervous temperament. A pale and languid appearance.

Seen upon the 11th June. States that a year and a half ago she caught cold; became affected with sore throat, pain in chest, and cough. Soon afterwards her stomach became very irritable. She had frequent attacks of vomiting. These symptoms became so bad three weeks ago, as to confine her constantly to bed. She complains of a constant beating pain in forehead, a disagreeable bitter taste in mouth. A pain in her stomach increased by pressure. She vomits after every meal, and almost all she has eaten. Bowels are very loose, and the evacuations are attended with pain. The cough is worst at night; thick disagreeable expectoration; pulse 80, natural. The regular and slow pulse rendered it extremely improbable that the cough was of a consumptive character, although the emaciation, night sweats, and diarrhoea, had produced this conviction in the minds of her relatives. Circumstances prevented a stethoscopic examination. Catamenia regular. *Nux v.* 3 doses.

13th.—Slight improvement in sickness. *Ac. Phosph.* 3 doses.

17th.—Feels a great deal better; is now sitting up; and did not vomit at all yesterday. Cough a great deal better. *Merc. sol.* 2 doses.

June 25th.—We found her up, and at the washing tub; is perfectly well; and gaining strength daily. Has continued well since.

### XL. *Dropsy subsequent to Scarlet Fever.*

D. F. aged 8, has now (Jan. 10.) been ill for fourteen days; the illness commenced with shivering and palpitation of the

heart, &c. ; next day; a scarlet eruption with sore throat appeared ; the eruption continued three days, since then he has always been complaining.

Jan. 10th.—Complains of pain over the temple ; enlargement and redness of the tonsils ; the glands under the angle of the jaw are swollen and painful ; tongue white, no appetite, frequent thirst ; abdomen enlarged and tympanitic, bowels regular ; urine diminished, and of a high colour ; face swollen and puffy looking ; legs swell from under the knee, especially at night. Fever sets in in the evening. *Merc. sol.*

Jan. 11th.—Sore throat and pain of head gone ; fever less last night than usual ; appears more lively. No medicine.

Jan. 12th.—General swelling of the body, especially of the face, hands, and feet ; look dull and languid ; bowels costive, has passed no water since the morning of the 10th ; pulse 90, tongue white and furred. *Puls.*

Jan. 13th.—Four hours after commencing *Puls.* the urine was passed freely, likewise twice to-day, high coloured ; bowels opened ; swelling diminished ; pain in pit of stomach and in the abdomen. *Met. alb.*

Jan. 14th.—Bowels regular ; urine passed natural in quantity, rather high coloured ; appetite improved, slept well, no fever ; dropsical swelling much diminished ; pain in pit of stomach and abdomen gone ; pulse natural. Continue *Met. alb.*

This medicine was continued with advantage until the 18th, when *Merc.* was given. On the 19th, he was attacked with violent pain in the ear, and behind it, forcing him to scream out. *Puls.* was given with great relief ; by the 20th it was quite gone, but the dropsical swelling had increased. *Met. alb.* Early on the morning of the 22d, he was seized with convulsions which lasted six hours ; together with increase of the dropsical swellings. A dose of *Bell.* was given, and after that the *Met. alb.* was continued.

23d.—Is much exhausted ; face and limbs very much swollen. Continue *Met. alb.*

24th.—Dropsical swelling has much diminished, and, in other respects, is improving.

26th.—Hardly any trace of swelling *Hell.* By the 30th, he was quite well and going about the house.

## XLI. CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.

H. M., aged 37, states, that, for 21 years, she has been affected with rheumatism, and for three years has been unable to cross the door. It commenced with rheumatic fever; gradually the joints became stiffened. All ordinary measures had been tried, but without the least benefit. On the 17th January, when the treatment was commenced, the following was her state:—The elbows are quite stiff, and cannot be extended; wrists quite stiff; joints of fingers enlarged and stiff, allowing of no motion whatever; right knee quite stiff. In the stiffened joints, there is scarcely any pain; but in the joints that are moveable, there is great pain. The pains fly from one part to another, principally darting between the shoulders and round the chest, preventing motion. In left knee, dull pain when at rest; upon standing, violent lancinating pains are excited; shooting pain through the soles of the feet; appetite bad. *Bryon.*

Feb. 1st.—States, that while taking the medicine the pains were much increased, but that she is now much better, and is able to walk (though with difficulty), which she has not done for a long time. *Puls.* 2 doses.

March 12th.—Again aggravation shortly after taking the medicine, and, curious to observe, she now complains of pain in the stiffened joints, in which she has had no pain for eight years. The joints of the wrists and fingers are becoming flexible. *Sepia.*

March 25th.—Diminution of the pains, and increased flexibility of the joints. *Puls.*

May 10th.—Has now considerable motion in the joints of the fingers and wrists; is able almost to approximate the fingers to the thumbs: previously the joints were quite immovable. *Lyc.*

May 26th.—Flexibility of the joints continues to increase. *Bryon.*

June 27th.—Continued improvement. *Puls.* From this date until Nov. 6th, owing to a mistake, she did not receive any medicine, and the disease has remained stationary. She is again under treatment.

## XLII. RHEUMATISM.

J. B., aged 75, admitted December 27th. Always been healthy. Has been subject for three years to a constant pain of back part of right arm, as it were scraping of the bone; worse at night; worse on motion, so that the arm is nearly disabled; no rheumatism elsewhere. *Merc. Sol.* 3 doses.

January 3d.—The pain in arm is a great deal better; can now move it without any suffering.

She then got *Ruta.*, *Kal. carb.*, and *Met. alb.*, partly on account of a cough and dimness of sight; and up to the 25th of January she had remained entirely free of her old pain in the arm, which did not again annoy her.

## XLIII. RHEUMATISM.

J. D., aged 51, of a sanguineous temperament. Admitted 26th February. Has been subject to rheumatism for twenty years; has employed embrocations and other remedies to no good purpose.

Occasional slight pain of head; appetite good; has pain in the hips, going down to the ankles; sometimes also pain in small of back; pains are very severe, intermittent, sudden in their accession; easier when warm in bed; much affected by changes of weather; knees crack when he walks. This attack has lasted about three months, and has been so severe for this last week as to confine him to the house. *Bryon.* 3 doses.

March 3d.—Pains have been a good deal better; somewhat worse in hip to-day; can walk a great deal better; pains in back not nearly so bad. *Bryon.* then *Dulc.*

6th.—Pains entirely gone; is now quite well.

## XLIV. RHEUMATISM.

Mrs M., aged 41, of a plethoric habit of body. Admitted August 15th. On the 12th of this month got wet, and was soon after attacked with violent pain in shoulder, chest, and neck. The pain is shooting, spasmodic, wandering; considerable heat in the parts affected. *Bryon.* 2 doses.

16th.—A great deal better; pain almost gone; still some wandering pain in side. *Puls.* 2 doses.

18th.—Quite well.

## XLV. DISEASE OF WRIST JOINT.

W. H., aged 53, a healthy-looking man, applied at the Dispensary on February 18th. He states that the affection of the wrist commenced two years ago, but can assign no cause for it. He applied to an eminent surgeon, who blistered the part at least twenty times, but with no benefit. After this he entered the Edinburgh Infirmary, which he left in August 1841, after having been sixteen weeks under treatment; but the disease increased instead of getting better. The treatment pursued in the hospital was application of mercurial ointment, from which he was salivated; then poultices and stimulating washes, together "with a dose of salts when he chose to take it." These means having failed, he was recommended to go to the country; but the disease got no better. He then returned to the hospital, when amputation was advised as the only means. This he refused to submit to, and left. He was recommended by a gentleman to whom he shewed the arm to apply at this Dispensary. The right wrist presented, as he himself described it, the appearance of a "boiled turnip;" much swollen, with the cellular tissue around hardened. There are two sinuses, which communicate with the joint, the one opening anteriorly, the other posteriorly. From these there is a copious yellow discharge. Unable to move the wrist or flex the fingers; any attempt to do so attended with pain. He got *Sil.* 2 doses; and on the 28th Feb., *Phosph.*

On March the 1st, the hardness round the joint is beginning to diminish, and the joint becoming more flexible. *Sil.*

7th.—*Assaf.*

12th.—The posterior opening has healed; from the anterior a small piece of bone has come away; the swelling much diminished, and the joints more flexible.

16th.—Increased discharge from the anterior opening. *Hepar S.*

19th.—Discharge diminished; the wrist presents a much more natural appearance; the pain on motion is much less; and the flexibility increasing. *Assaf.*

25th.—No pain in the joint; is able now to use it a little; can even lift a bucket of water. *Sil.*

It thus continued to improve under the use of *Sulph.*, *Sil.*, *Ruta.*, *Hep. S.*; and on the 19th July it was pronounced cured. The man went to the harvest; and up to this date, the 17th November, has continued well, engaging daily in his occupations.

#### XLVI. ULCERATION OF THE FACE OF NINE YEARS' STANDING.

Mrs C., ætat. 56, states that she has had the ulceration on the internal angle of the eye, and side of the nose, for upwards of nine years; that numerous means have been used, but with no benefit. "It commenced like a wart," which ulcerated, and gradually increased. The ulcer is superficial, and now about the size of a half-crown; it has hard elevated edges, little discharge, and great itching. There is also an oblong foul-looking ulcer upon the cheek, about the size of an almond, which discharges a thin, yellow, foetid matter, mixed occasionally with blood. The surrounding skin is swollen and hard. The ulcer has existed a year. On the 23d Sept. two doses of *Sil.* were given.

Oct. 7th.—The ulcer on the cheek has healed; that on the side of the nose is smaller. Continue *Sil.*

20th.—Ulcer continues to heal rapidly. Continue *Sil.*

The patient caught cold, and did not return to the Dispensary until November 18th, by which time the ulcer on the nose was quite healed, and continued so when again seen in December.

#### SKIN DISEASES.

Perhaps the most intractable class of cases that occur in ordinary Dispensary practice, is skin diseases of old standing; and there are no cures which, if terminating speedily under any specified plan of treatment, would give a more certain indication of the positive value of such treatment, because there is none in which a spontaneous cure is more unlikely to occur. On this account, we shall relate several cures of such diseases which have got rapidly well under our treatment.

#### XLVII. PORRIGO.

A. B., aged 7, of a scrofulous habit, was admitted on the 7th of February. Her previous history throws no great light on her present ailment. About a year ago, the hair fell out,

and the head became scurfy. The head is now covered in various places with yellow elevated scabs, surrounded by an inflamed base ; these are very itchy. Has had the hair cut out, and, with medical advice, tried a great variety of applications without the slightest benefit. Eyelids are occasionally red. The appetite is ravenous. Bowels regular ; has never passed worms, although many "worm medicines" have been given. *Rhus.*, 2 powders.

27th.—Scabs drier ; not so inflamed at base ; and not so itchy. *Graph.*, 2 doses.

Jan. 6th.—Scabs much drier ; not so numerous ; diminished in size. *Sulph.*, 2 doses.

18th.—Head is now a great deal better ; not nearly so many scabs ; not so itchy. *Graph.*

26th.—No trace of an eruption, with the exception of a small spot on nape of neck. *Calc.* then *Graph.*

Seen in September perfectly well.

#### XLVIII. PORRIGO—*Eruptions on the Scalp.*

A. H., aged 8, of a scrofulous habit ; has been affected for now three years with an eruption on the head, which has of late increased and spread over the body. Various allopathic measures have been tried, but with no effect.

The head is covered with a scabby eruption, which varies slightly in its character in different places. Over the greater portion of the head, it presents an extensive yellow scab, with the hairs matted in it. At some places this is less extensive, and numerous red tubercles can be seen, which secrete a yellow viscid matter. Towards the edge of the scalp, the eruption is drier and more scaly. The eruption wearing this latter character extends all over the body ; on the lower part of the abdomen, and lower extremities, it is almost continuous ; on the breast and upper extremities, it is in patches.

Vascularity of the conjunctiva with inflammation of the eyelids. Bad taste in the mouth in the morning ; pressive pain in the stomach after eating ; abdomen slightly distended. Felt very cold at night.

Nov. 1st.—*Sulph.*

5th.—*Cicuta.* 6. 2 powders.

10th.—*Graph.*

22d.—Eruption has diminished considerably. *Calc.*

29th.—Continues to diminish rapidly, especially upon the body. *Graph.*

Dec. 6th.—Eruption has almost disappeared. *Sulph.*

12th.—Hardly any trace of it. *Graph.*

20th.—Cured.

The limits of our report prevent us detailing many similar cases which we treated with the same happy results.

#### XLIX. PSORIASIS.—*Obstinate Eruption on Hands.*

J. T., aged 36; admitted 21st December. A stocking-maker. Has had children's diseases and small-pox, from which he recovered very easily; had also swelling of the submaxillary glands, for which he took much medicine. About 7 years ago the eruption, which now affects the hands, first appeared. It commenced in the form of small pimples, between the fingers and on the back of the hand, which broke and discharged a purulent matter. There has always been an increase of the complaint annually at this period of the year; and at no time since its first occurrence has it entirely disappeared. Has tried all sorts of medical treatment with no benefit to his complaint. At present there is a dry reddish scabby eruption, between the fore and middle fingers of both hands, extending up the back of hand. It is excessively itchy in the evening, and then becomes very red and inflamed. He once had it on his right leg. *Sulph.* and *Graph.* alternately.

27th.—Hands are better; a dry and somewhat shining appearance between fingers. *Arnica*, 3 doses; afterwards *Sulph.*

Jan. 3d.—Hands a great deal better, have not been so well for years.

15th.—Hands quite well.

When seen on 21st of February, had remained quite well. In September, when patient was accidentally seen, he continued quite free of the eruption.

#### L. DYSECOIA.—*Deafness.*

M. L., aged 30, of a bilious-nervous temperament; was admitted on the 11th of February. In good health except being

perfectly deaf in her right ear, and nearly quite deaf in her left. Has been perfectly deaf in right ear since she had the measles when a child ; could not even hear the ticking of a watch in contact with the ear. She has been partially deaf in left ear for the last three years, and it has become much worse since last May. Complains of occasional dizziness and pain of head ; with a feeling of coldness ; constant sound like rushing of waters ; cannot hear promiscuous speaking at all. On examining the ears nothing abnormal was discernible. *Bell.* 3 doses.

22d.—Has not felt so dizzy ; a sensation of powerlessness in whole body ; hearing much improved ; ringing in ears continues ; complains of sourness of stomach. *Puls.* 3 doses.

29th.—Has no dizziness now ; still a great deal of noise ; has not felt the same powerlessness as before ; noise in ears still continues ; sourness of stomach gone. *Calc.* 3 doses.

Feb. 5th.—The left ear is now much deafer than before, but she hears perfectly well with the right, which she has not done since childhood ; the pain she used to have in left ear is now entirely gone ; no dizziness ; no noise in ears. *Calc.*

11th.—Deafness now quite gone ; hears perfectly well with both ears ; no noise in head ; nor any dizziness. In other respects quite well.

### *Inflammation of Throat.*

The limits of our report prevent us detailing any cases of inflammation of the throat and tonsils ; we would merely remark that it is an affection which yields with great ease to homœopathic treatment, and proves how far superior the specific remedies, belladonna, mercurius, &c., are to leeches, blisters, caustic, &c. In none of 12 cases, and many of them were very severe, did the inflammation of the tonsils terminate in suppuration ; a very frequent result under ordinary treatment. To these 12 we add 23 cases of inflamed sore-throat, occurring in scarlet fever ; so that, out of 35 cases, only one terminated in suppuration, viz., the case reported at p. 12.

*Tabular Report of Patients treated at the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary from November 1841 to November 1842.*

| DISEASES.                                                          | No. Treated. | Cured. | Unknown,<br>not return-<br>ing. | Discharged<br>as<br>irregular. | Relieved. | Relieved,<br>but under<br>treatment. | Died. | Under<br>treatment. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Abortion, threatened,.....                                         | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Acne. <i>Eruption of face, ...</i>                                 | 5            | 2      | 1                               |                                |           | 2                                    |       |                     |
| Amaurosis,.....                                                    | 5            | ...    | ...                             |                                |           | 1                                    |       |                     |
| Amenorrhœa. <i>Suppressed }<br/>menstruation,.....</i>             | 5            | 2      | 3                               |                                |           |                                      | ...   | 4                   |
| Aphthæ. <i>Thrush,.....</i>                                        | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Asthma,.....                                                       | 9            | 2      | ...                             |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Bronchitis, acute,.....                                            | 10           | 10     |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Bronchitis, chronic,.....                                          | 15           | 6      | 4                               | 2                              |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Bronchocele,.....                                                  | 1            | ...    | 1                               |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Cancer,.....                                                       | 1            | ...    | ...                             | 1                              |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Catarrh,.....                                                      | 24           | 24     |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Cephalalgia. <i>Chronic head- }<br/>ache,.....</i>                 | 25           | 14     | 5                               |                                |           |                                      |       | 6                   |
| Chilblains,.....                                                   | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Chlorosis,.....                                                    | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Colic,.....                                                        | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Convulsions,.....                                                  | 3            | 3      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Croup,.....                                                        | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Cynanche tonsillaris. <i>In- }<br/>flammation of the throat, }</i> | 12           | 12     |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Diarrhœa. <i>Bowel complaint,</i>                                  | 46           | 44     | 1                               |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Dropsey,.....                                                      | 3            | 1      | 1                               | 1                              |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Dysentery, chronic,.....                                           | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Dysecoia. <i>Deafness,.....</i>                                    | 17           | 1      | 4                               | 2                              | 1         | 1                                    |       |                     |
| Dyspepsia,.....                                                    | 74           | 39     | 13                              | 2                              | 6         | 3                                    |       |                     |
| Ear-ache,.....                                                     | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Eczema. <i>Eruption, .....</i>                                     | 4            | 4      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Epilepsy,.....                                                     | 3            | ...    | ...                             |                                | 1         | 1                                    |       |                     |
| Erysipelas,.....                                                   | 6            | 6      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Febricula. <i>Febrile affections,</i>                              | 32           | 31     | 1                               |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Fever, infantile remittent,                                        | 10           | 9      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  |       |                     |
| Furunculi. <i>Boils,.....</i>                                      | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Gastrodynia. <i>Cramp of }<br/>stomach,.....</i>                   | 4            | 2      | 1                               | 1                              |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Gastric fever,.....                                                | 5            | 5      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| General derangement,.....                                          | 7            | 2      | 2                               | 1                              | 1         | ...                                  |       |                     |
| Glandular affections,.....                                         | 13           | 9      | 2                               | ...                            | 1         | ...                                  |       |                     |
| Hæmorrhoids. <i>Piles,.....</i>                                    | 3            | 2      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    |       |                     |
| Heart, disease of,.....                                            | 9            | 1      | 4                               | ...                            | ...       | 2                                    |       |                     |
| Herpes. <i>Tetters, .....</i>                                      | 5            | 4      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  |       |                     |
| Hoarseness,.....                                                   | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Hydrocephalus. <i>Water in }<br/>the head,.....</i>                | 2            | 1      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     |                     |
| Hysteria,.....                                                     | 7            | 4      | 2                               | ...                            | 1         |                                      |       |                     |
| Icterus. <i>Jaundice,.....</i>                                     | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Impetigo. <i>Affection of skin,</i>                                | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |

## Tabular Report—continued.

| DISEASES.                                                         | No. Treated. | Cured. | Unknown,<br>not return-<br>ing. | Discharged<br>as<br>irregular. | Relieved. | Relieved,<br>but under<br>treatment. | Died. | Under<br>treatment. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Influenza,.....                                                   | 6            | 6      | ...                             | 1*                             | 1         | ...                                  | ...   | 1                   |
| Insanity,.....                                                    | 2            | ...    | 2                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Joints, inflammation of,.....                                     | 7            | 5      | 2                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Joints and bones, ulceration of,.....                             | 7            | 3      | 3                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | 1                   |
| Kidney, disease of,.....                                          | 1            | ...    | ...                             | 1†                             | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Laryngitis chronic. <i>Inflammation of larynx, chronic, .....</i> | 2            | ...    | 1                               | 1                              | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Lumbago,.....                                                     | 4            | 3      | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Mammæ, inflammation of. <i>Inflammation of breasts, .....</i>     | 3            | 3      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     | 4                   |
| Marasmus. <i>General wasting, .....</i>                           | 2            | 1      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Mechanical injuries, .....                                        | 32           | 25     | 12                              | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     | 1                   |
| Meningitis. <i>Inflammation of brain, .....</i>                   | 1            | 1      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Menorrhagia. <i>Profuse Menstruation, .....</i>                   | 2            | 2      | 4                               | ...                            | 1         | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Neuralgia,.....                                                   | 7            | 2      | 2                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Odontalgia. <i>Toothache, .....</i>                               | 8            | 6      | 2                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Ophthalmia. <i>Inflammation of eyes, .....</i>                    | 20           | 14     | 2                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | 4                   |
| Ottorrhœa. <i>Discharge from the ears, .....</i>                  | 2            | 1      | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Paralysis,.....                                                   | 5            | 2      | 1                               | ...                            | 1         | 1                                    | ...   | ...                 |
| Pertussis. <i>Hooping-cough, .....</i>                            | 1            | 1      | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Pityriasis. <i>Scurf, .....</i>                                   | 1            | ...    | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | ...                 |
| Phthisis pulmonum. <i>Pulmonary consumption, .....</i>            | 11           | 1      | 1                               | ...                            | 2         | 3                                    | ...   | 4                   |
| Pleurisy, chronic, .....                                          | 3            | ...    | 2                               | 1†                             | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Pleurodynia. <i>Stitch in the side, .....</i>                     | 7†           | 7      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | ...                 |
| Pneumonia. <i>Inflammation of lungs, .....</i>                    | 3            | 2      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     | 2                   |
| Polypus of the nose, .....                                        | 3            | ...    | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | ...                 |
| Porigo. <i>Scald-head, .....</i>                                  | 19           | 12     | 4                               | 1                              | ...       | 2                                    | ...   | ...                 |
| Prolapsus ani,.....                                               | 4            | 2      | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | 3                   |
| Psoriasis. <i>Skin affection, .....</i>                           | 6            | 1      | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | ...                 |
| Rheumatism, acute,.....                                           | 13           | 12     | ...                             | 1                              | 2         | 1                                    | ...   | 4                   |
| Rheumatism, chronic, .....                                        | 16           | 1      | 8                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | 2                   |
| Rubeola. <i>Measles, .....</i>                                    | 15           | 13     | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | 1                   |
| Scabies, .....                                                    | 19           | 9      | 9                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | 1                   |
| Scarlatina. <i>Scarlet fever, .....</i>                           | 24           | 23     | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     | 1                   |
| Scrofula,.....                                                    | 1            | ...    | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | 1                   |
| Spine, disease of, .....                                          | 1            | ...    | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | ...                 |
| Syphilitic and mercurial affections,.....                         | 12           | 5      | 4                               | 1                              | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | 1                   |

\* Sent to Asylum.

† Dismissed by desire, see Obs. I.

## Tabular Report—continued.

| DISEASES.                                                          | No. Treated. | Cured. | Unknown,<br>not return-<br>ing. | Discharged<br>as<br>irregular. | Relieved. | Relieved,<br>but under<br>treatment. | Died. | Under<br>treatment. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Tabes mesenterica. <i>Scrofulous disease of abdomen, . . . . .</i> | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Tussis chronica. <i>Chronic cough, . . . . .</i>                   | 12           | 3      | 7                               | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | ...   | 2                   |
| Tumour, abdominal, . . . . .                                       | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Typhus fever, . . . . .                                            | 7            | 6      | ...                             | 1*                             | 1         |                                      |       |                     |
| Ulcers, chronic, . . . . .                                         | 9            | 5      | 1                               | 2                              |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Ulcer, malignant, of face, . . . . .                               | 1            | ...    | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     |                     |
| Urticaria. <i>Nettle-rush, . . . . .</i>                           | 1            | 1      | 1                               |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Urinary and genital organs, affections of, . . . . .               | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Uterine affections, . . . . .                                      | 8            | 5      | 1                               | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    | ...   | 1                   |
| Uteri prolapsus. <i>Descent of womb, . . . . .</i>                 | 1            | 1      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Varicella. <i>Chicken-pox, . . . . .</i>                           | 2            | 2      |                                 |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Variola. <i>Small-pox, . . . . .</i>                               | 5            | 4      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | ...                                  | 1     |                     |
| Vermes. <i>Worms, . . . . .</i>                                    | 6            | 5      | 1                               |                                |           |                                      |       |                     |
| Vomiting, chronic, . . . . .                                       | 4            | 3      | ...                             | ...                            | ...       | 1                                    |       |                     |

## OBSERVATIONS.

OBS. (1.) This is the case of a patient who was admitted about the middle of August, with symptoms of acute pleurisy. The pulse was 110; there was much pain in the side, a teasing cough, and dulness on percussion of the greater part of one side. Under the treatment all these symptoms abated; he did not, however, recover his strength, perspired much at night, and the cough and pain did not entirely subside, although there was no longer any dulness on percussion. This led us to suspect phthisis. Having inadvertently exposed himself to cold, the symptoms returned; and although mitigated, were not entirely removed by the treatment. This was about the 8th of September. He now gave up taking the medicines we prescribed, and expressed a wish to be sent to the Infirmary; instead of that, he was seen by some physicians of the New-Town Dispensary. Under their care he lingered on until

\* Sent to Hospital.

his death, which occurred about a week ago. Post-mortem examination disclosed a large effusion in the chest. *In the upper part of the left lung there was a tuberculous cavity, and miliary tubercles were scattered over that lung.* This shewed our suspicion that the patient was consumptive to have been correct; and it is so far satisfactory to know that this complication is *always fatal*.

OBS. (2.) The death from inflammation of the lungs occurred in a young child. The disease was not detected or treated until it was far advanced, owing to the rest of the family, including the mother, having scarlet fever. It was only after she recovered that the child was observed to be complaining. On examination, the back part of the left side of chest was found quite dull, with distinct bronchial respiration. For four days the symptoms improved under the use of *Phosph.*, so much so that crepitation was heard all over the affected region. On the 6th day she became worse, the pulse quick and weak; profuse diarrhoea took place; two days after she died. It is more than probable, that had this case been treated when the disease commenced, that the result would have been favourable.

OBS. (8.) We have purposely omitted to insert in the tabular report a fatal case of Peritonitis. This case was treated four days by medical men from another Dispensary. Bleeding, blisters, calomel, &c., were used, but without any benefit. Owing to the former medical attendant not having returned, we were requested to visit the child, whom we found evidently dying; she was in extreme pain; the features collapsed; the abdomen swollen, and so painful that percussion could not be employed. It appeared as if an abscess was about to burst at the umbilicus. The patient was 36 hours under our treatment; but the mother becoming alarmed at the increasing danger, called in an eminent physician, who prescribed stimulants, with turpentine enemata. The patient died twelve hours after we had last seen her. The post-mortem examination disclosed inflammation of the bowels and peritoneum, with a sero-purulent effusion into the cavity of the abdomen.

## ACCOUNT OF EXPENSES.

|                                               |      |      |      |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| To last year's balance,* . . . .              | L.13 | 0    | 0    |
| ... Furnishing Dispensary, . . . .            | 7    | 11   | 1    |
| ... Rent, . . . .                             | 12   | 12   | 0    |
| ... Police assessment and Water-duty, . . . . | 0    | 18   | 2    |
| ... Coal and candle, . . . .                  | 5    | 13   | 0    |
| ... Stationery, . . . .                       | 1    | 18   | 1    |
| ... Books on Materia Medica, . . . .          | 2    | 12   | 0    |
| ... Printing expenses, . . . .                | 1    | 5    | 0    |
| ... Medicines, . . . .                        | 12   | 14   | 6    |
| ... Sundries, . . . .                         | 0    | 18   | 0    |
| TOTAL,                                        |      | L.59 | 1 10 |
| Amount of Expenditure, . . . .                | L.59 | 1 10 |      |
| Amount of Income, . . . .                     | 49   | 13   | 0    |
| To Balance, . . . .                           |      | L.9  | 8 10 |

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\* The above sum was a debt upon the Institution, when, at November 1841, it became, under the charge of the present Medical Officers, a Homœopathic Dispensary.

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J. LEATH, 5 St. Paul's Churchyard, London ; MACLACHLAN, STEWART, & Co.,  
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BY THE LATE JOHN FLETCHER, M.D.  
EDITED BY J. J. DRYSDALE, M.D., AND J. R. RUSSELL, M.D.  
MACLACHLAN, STEWART, & Co., Edinburgh.

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BY THE  
ACTING COMMITTEE

OF THE  
EDINBURGH HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY,

**No. 5, JAMES' SQUARE.**

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DR. SUTHERLAND, 1, Carlton Street, Stockbridge.

### Consulting Physician.

PROFESSOR HENDERSON, 63, Northumberland Street.



## REPORT, &c.

IN our last Report, we had to commemorate a new era in the formation of the Committee of Management under which the affairs of the Dispensary are now conducted, and to express our gratification at the great progress then made in the organization and efficiency of the Institution. This, the *seventh* year of its existence, has been even more eventful; and from circumstances, not certainly unanticipated, but perhaps under-estimated by many of us, the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary has attained a position of public influence and estimation to which the most sanguine of its supporters would a few years ago have deemed it rash to look forward. It is extremely satisfactory that this should not have been the result of any fortuitous event, but the foretold consequence of public experience of the efficiency of the Homœopathic system of treatment when applied to that disease which has scourged so many of the cities of Europe, and brought death into so many of our own families. While it was yet in the distance, but believed to be certainly approaching, your Committee had expressed their anxious wish “to have the public support in applying that system of cure to a disease, in which, by very ample and accurate statistics obtained in other countries, it has shewn an amount of success so far exceeding that of any other system;” and when it was announced to be among us, steps were instantly taken, with the cordial and zealous co-operation of your Medical Officers, to bring what relief could be brought to the sufferers. It is impossible to doubt that much good has followed these efforts; and it is matter of congratulation and thankfulness to all who have taken any part in them, whether by the contribution of labour or of money, that the success has been all that was to be hoped for.

Although a separate Report\* on this subject has already appeared, it seemed to your Committee to deserve the very first notice in the ordinary Annual Report; but the details relating to it are reserved for subsequent statement.

The next matter to be referred to, is also one of congratulation—the greatly improved accommodation afforded by the new premises. The house in Stockbridge, formerly occupied as a Dispensary, having been found inconvenient, your Committee obtained at Whitsunday last, on lease for a number of years, and at a moderate rent, most commodious rooms, being the whole ground-floor of a house on the south side of James' Square. A more central position could not have been found; and in other respects the premises are extremely suitable. Their proximity to Leith is a great convenience to the numerous Patients who still come from that quarter; no separate Dispensary having been yet established for their use.

It will be seen from the appended Table, that during the last year, from December 1847 to November 1848, both inclusive, no fewer than 1831 Patients, besides those entered in the Cholera books, or in all above 2000 Patients, have been treated at the Dispensary; and when it is considered that removal to a new locality must for some time, and until the Institution become well known in the neighbourhood, tend to prevent a full attendance, the result will appear to have entirely justified the anticipations of your Committee as to the fitness of the locality now occupied. We have also the pleasure of stating that during the past year several students of Medicine have been attending the Dispensary; and it is to be hoped that their numbers in future may be still greater, as the wants of the community are in this respect far from being adequately supplied. At the same time, we have to regret the loss of Dr. Atkin, who after having opened at Portobello a Dispensary, where in less than six months above 350 Patients had been treated, was induced to become House Physician

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\* Report by the Acting Committee of the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary, on the Treatment of Asiatic Cholera, from October 8, to October 27, 1848.

during the prevalence of Cholera, and after the state of Dr. Cockburn's health had obliged him to resign. Dr. Atkin has accepted an invitation to establish himself in one of the most important commercial towns in England, where he is now settled with every prospect of a large practice. During the three months of his residence at the Dispensary, he discharged the very onerous duties which fell on him to the entire satisfaction of your Committee, who desire to express their sense of the great value of his services, and their cordial wishes for his future success. It may be here mentioned that your Committee thought it right to offer a gratuity each month to the House Physicians; but so small as to be viewed rather as an acknowledgement of the great value of the services thus obtained, than as at all an adequate remuneration for them. One other loss has to be recorded in the resignation of our excellent Treasurer, Mr. Simpson, whose avocations abroad make it impossible for him to continue the discharge of these duties, which will in the meantime devolve on the Secretary.

With reference to the Cholera, its history and Homœopathic treatment in Edinburgh, we again refer to the Report on that subject, embracing the cases occurring between the 8th and 27th October last, already published and very largely circulated; above a thousand copies having been sold in England, Scotland, and Ireland. But as that Report relates only to the cases treated during the first fortnight after the invasion of Cholera, it will be necessary to give now some further particulars in regard to its course, and the means which were used to arrest it, as well as to state the numerical result of the whole cases which came under the charge of the Physicians to the Dispensary. This will be done as briefly as possible; and those who may wish for additional information on the subject, are referred to the British Journal of Homœopathy, for January and April 1849.

The general arrangements which were made on the first incursion of Cholera, continued in operation at the Dispensary during the whole of its course, and the most effectual means were used

to give public notice that Medical assistance was to be obtained there at all hours, by the posting of hand-bills, and by circulars addressed to those frequenting the dwellings of the poor. That these measures were much needed, and quite successful, appears in the very large proportion treated by the Physicians of the Dispensary, being more than one-fourth of the whole cases of Cholera reported to the General Board of Health as having occurred in Edinburgh and Leith.

The *first* case occurred on the 8th October, the *last* on the 11th February; the disease having continued in Edinburgh rather more than four months. It reached its *maximum* about the beginning of December—the greatest number of new cases in any one week having occurred during the week ending December 3d, and being thirty-four; after which time the number of cases decreased rapidly, and during the last week of January only three new cases were reported. Not more than one or two stray cases occurred afterwards. The following Table shows the progress of the disease:—

*Table of the Number of Cases and Results each week.*

| Week ending     | Remaining. | New. | Total. | Recoveries. | Deaths. |
|-----------------|------------|------|--------|-------------|---------|
| October 15..... | ...        | 19   | 19     | 8           | 5       |
| ," 22.....      | 6          | 25   | 31     | 18          | 4       |
| ," 29.....      | 9          | 15   | 24     | 10          | 7       |
| November 5..... | 7          | 19   | 26     | 11          | 6       |
| ," 12.....      | 9          | 12   | 21     | 12          | 2       |
| ," 19.....      | 7          | 25   | 32     | 15          | 7       |
| ," 26.....      | 10         | 23   | 33     | 17          | 5       |
| December 3..... | 11         | 34   | 45     | 22          | 7       |
| ," 10.....      | 16         | 20   | 36     | 22          | 7       |
| ," 17.....      | 7          | 14   | 21     | 10          | 1       |
| ," 24.....      | 10         | 8    | 18     | 11          | 1       |
| ," 31.....      | 6          | 4    | 10     | 8           | 1       |
| January 7.....  | 1          | 5    | 6      | 1           | ...     |
| ," 14.....      | 5          | 4    | 9      | 6           | 2       |
| ," 21.....      | 1          | 5    | 6      | 3           | 2       |
| ," 28.....      | 1          | 3    | 4      | 1           | ...     |
| February 4..... | 3          | ...  | 3      | 3           | ...     |
| ," 11.....      | ...        | 1    | 1      | ...         | ...     |
| ," 18.....      | 1          | ...  | 1      | 1           | ...     |

Thus the total number of cases, after deducting all doubtful ones, is 236 ; of these 179 recovered, and 57 died. This gives a mortality of 24.15 per cent.,—a very serious mortality certainly ; and very lamentable it is that nearly one-fourth of all who took Cholera should have died ; the virulence of the disease appearing also in this, that the average duration of the fatal cases was no more than fifty-eight hours. Still there is much comfort in the thought that under the treatment employed by the Medical Officers of the Dispensary, the mortality was so much less than the average mortality in Edinburgh during the same period, and, except in the matter of Medical treatment, under similar circumstances ; and in the assurance thence arising that many human lives have been saved, and thus the most anxious efforts have been amply recompensed.

We have received from the General Board of Health the following return of the total number of cases of Cholera in Edinburgh and Leith, (which appear to be classed together,) with the result—

| Attacks. | Deaths. | Recoveries. |
|----------|---------|-------------|
| 876      | 492     | 244         |

which gives a mortality of rather more than 56 per cent. ; or if we deduct from the total number of cases reported, those which were reported from our Dispensary, with the corresponding results, there will remain 640 ; of which 435 died, and 65 recovered : which gives a mortality of within a small fraction of 68 per cent. of the cases *treated otherwise than Homœopathically* ; while as above stated, the mortality among those *treated Homœopathically* was only 24.15 per cent.

It was stated in the former Report on this subject, that in some instances the patients, when visited by the Physicians of the Dispensary, were found in so great destitution, (being without food, fuel, or clothing,) that it was necessary to send them immediately to the Infirmary ; and an attempt has been made to diminish the value of the differential statistics just given, by suggesting that the worst cases were sent to the Infirmary, and

thus the proportion of deaths apparently lessened. To correct this error, it is only necessary for us to repeat emphatically what has been already asserted, that in no cases except those above referred to, and one or two others, when it was done by the express desire of the patients, were any sent to the Infirmary ; and that it became less necessary to use that extreme measure after food and blankets had been provided for the patients.

That the labour of the Physicians was great, will be easily understood, when it is considered that upon *six* of them (at the most, and there were seldom so many) devolved the whole duty of giving constant attendance at the Dispensary, which continued to be open at all hours, day and night ; and of visiting during one week *forty-five* patients, each of them perhaps three or four times a-day ; and these not gathered into an Hospital, nor even confined to one district, but scattered over the city and its suburbs, from Leith Walk to Bruntsfield Links, and residing very often in the remotest and most inaccessible localities. Add to this labour the anxiety and mental suffering, without which no right-hearted man can witness the cruel ravages, especially among the poor, of a disease in all its features so appalling, and before which, at least when fully developed, the most skilful treatment becomes comparatively powerless, and there will appear large acknowledgments due to those who willingly undertook and manfully discharged these painful duties.

The Committee take this opportunity of recording their high sense of the value and desert of these services ; and would, at the same time, tender cordial thanks to those who, by providing food and clothing for the most destitute of the patients, not only relieved their sufferings and promoted their recovery, but in so great measure lessened the anxieties of their Medical attendants, who have frequently and warmly expressed their thanks for this kindness. There remains as the fruit of these labours, not only the good which has been already experienced in the cure of the sick, but a large provision for future use in the valuable details of all the cases, which have been carefully collected and preserved

in the Cholera books of the Dispensary. From these books there were accurate Schedules prepared and communicated (after copies had been taken for preservation) to the General Board of Health in London, by the House Physician, who received an acknowledgment in the following terms:—

*The General Board of Health.*

GWYDYL HOUSE, WHITEHALL,  
24th February 1849.

SIR,—I am directed by the General Board of Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d instant, with the reports of cases of Cholera forwarded therewith; and I am to convey the thanks of the Board to the Physicians of the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary, for the valuable information contained in those Reports.—I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

ALEX. BAIN, *Asst. Secretary.*

To G. ATKIN, Esq., M.D.,  
Homœopathic Dispensary, 5, James' Square,  
Edinburgh.

It is to be mentioned that a number of the articles of clothing which have been kindly bestowed for the use of the sick, are still undisposed of; and that there remains a considerable sum of money, collected for the purchase of food, which being no longer required for that purpose, will now be applied to the general expenses of the Dispensary.

After what has been related, it will hardly be necessary to add, that the Dispensary has the strongest claims for much larger than usual Contributions, to meet the greatly increased expenses of the past year; but it may be stated, that although these claims have been already very liberally acknowledged by a few of our most zealous friends, the funds remaining are hardly sufficient

to pay the debts already due, exclusive of that due to the Medical Officers, towards the discharge of which the Committee are most anxious to make an instant payment; and that thus nothing remains for future expenses.

In these circumstances, it is confidently expected that the Contributions for the present year will be unusually liberal.

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**The Dispensary is open at No. 5, James' Square, on Monday,  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday,  
from Two to Four o'clock.**

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**STATEMENT of Accounts of the EDINBURGH HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY** from 18th December 1847 to 22d March 1849.

|                                                           |      |    |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------|----|----|
| Amount received as Subscriptions and Donations, . . . . . | £133 | 10 | 2  |
| Cash in Bank at date of last Report, . . . . .            | 3    | 8  | 8  |
| Cash in Treasurer's hand at same date, . . . . .          | 5    | 14 | 1  |
| Interest allowed by Bank, . . . . .                       | 1    | 10 | 11 |
| Amount received for Food, Blankets, &c., . . . . .        | 11   | 8  | 0  |
| Amount received by sale of Report on Cholera, . . . . .   | 8    | 6  | 6  |
| Balance due to Treasurer, . . . . .                       | 0    | 14 | 4  |
|                                                           | £164 | 12 | 8  |

| EXPENSES.                                             |      |    |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|----|----|
| Paid Collector, . . . . .                             | £3   | 19 | 0  |
| Rent and Taxes, . . . . .                             | 28   | 6  | 4  |
| Peter M'Laren, four Quarters' Salary, . . . . .       | 10   | 0  | 0  |
| Do. do. for extra services during Cholera, . . . . .  | 5    | 14 | 0  |
| Coals, . . . . .                                      | 6    | 19 | 0  |
| Furniture, &c., . . . . .                             | 20   | 6  | 7  |
| Stationery, . . . . .                                 | 8    | 0  | 10 |
| Blankets, Food, &c., . . . . .                        | 5    | 17 | 4  |
| Gratuities to House-Physicians, . . . . .             | 25   | 4  | 0  |
| Gas, Printing, Postage, and other expenses, . . . . . | 20   | 13 | 3  |
| Paid off Debt to Medical Officers, . . . . .          | 14   | 4  | 4  |
| Balance in Bank, . . . . .                            | 15   | 8  | 0  |
|                                                       | £164 | 12 | 8  |

HENRY SIMPSON, *Treasurer.*

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**HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY in Account with Medical Officers.**

| Dr.                                                 | 1849.                     | Cr.     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Amount owing them at date of last Report, . . . . . | £34                       | 4 4     |
|                                                     | March 22. Cash paid them, | £14 4 4 |
|                                                     | Balance carried forward,  | 20 0 0  |
|                                                     |                           | £34 4 4 |
| March 22. To Balance due them, £20 0 0              |                           |         |

# EDINBURGH HOMEOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

The following Table shews the number treated at the Dispensary from December 1847, to November 1848, inclusive, with the different localities whence the patients came.

| 1847 to 1848. | Edinburgh.       | Edinburgh.     |               |                |             |             |           |            |            |              |                 |               |                | Total. |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
|               |                  | December,..... | January,..... | February,..... | March,..... | April,..... | May,..... | June,..... | July,..... | August,..... | September,..... | October,..... | November,..... |        |
|               | Leith.           | 5              | 4             | 2              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 2          | 24         | 28           | 24              | 10            | 11             | 217    |
|               | Fifehire.        | 3              | 2             | 1              | 2           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 31     |
|               | Newhaven.        | 2              | 1             | 1              | 2           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 11     |
|               | Musselburgh, &c. | 2              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 8      |
|               | Roslin.          | 2              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 5      |
|               | Portobello.      | 2              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 3      |
|               | Glasgow.         | 2              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 2      |
|               | Biggear.         | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Limlithgow.      | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Tranent.         | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Prestonpans.     | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Pathhead.        | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Dirlenton.       | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Dundee.          | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Stirling.        | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Perth.           | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Stow.            | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Corsicana.       | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Peebles.         | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Broxhurst.       | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Falkirk.         | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Airdrie.         | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Dunfermline.     | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Borrowstounness. | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Lauder.          | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Galashire.       | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Penicuik.        | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Hawick.          | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Ayrshire.        | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Dunbar.          | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | Berwick.         | 1              | 1             | 1              | 1           | 1           | 1         | 1          | 1          | 1            | 1               | 1             | 1              | 1      |
|               | TOTAL.           | 55             | 109           | 147            | 133         | 103         | 109       | 171        | 159        | 165          | 130             | 262           | 288            | 1831   |

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS

TO THE

EDINBURGH HOMOEOPATHIC DISPENSARY,

APRIL 1848.

|                                                          |    |    | Brought forward,                        | £  | 8  | 6 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----|----|-----------------------------------------|----|----|---|
| John Home Hay, John Plaee, St.                           |    |    | James Paterson, South Grey Street,      | 0  | 5  | 0 |
| Leonards, . . . .                                        | £1 | 1  | James Paterson, Jun., do., .            | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Robert Lee, Lauriston, .                                 | 1  | 0  | A. Hamilton, 20, Lothian Street,        | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Alex. Cruickshank, . .                                   | 0  | 10 | Geo. Mercer & Son, 17, Nicolson St.,    | 0  | 5  | 0 |
| Miss Vans, Lauriston House, .                            | 1  | 0  | A Wellwisher, 46, do., .                | 0  | 1  | 0 |
| A friend, Hay's Court, .                                 | 0  | 3  | T. Cooper, 2, South Bridge, .           | 1  | 1  | 0 |
| Mr. Roughead, Upper Gilmore Plaee, 0                     | 2  | 6  | C. D., 10, High Street, .               | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Mrs. W. Mercer, 22, do., .                               | 0  | 2  | A. Banks, Jun., North Bridge,           | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Mr. Chalmers, Merchiston Castle, 0                       | 10 | 0  | Mrs. Gillon, Merchant Street,           | 0  | 5  | 0 |
| Mrs. Harington, West Grange, 0                           | 2  | 6  | John Weir, 17, Montague Street,         | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Miss Maxwell, Morningside, .                             | 0  | 10 | Miss Muir, 16, Regent Terrae,           | 0  | 5  | 0 |
| Miss C. G. Hamilton, do., .                              | 0  | 2  | Mrs. Kirkwood, 39, Broughton Place, 0   | 0  | 6  | 0 |
| Mrs. Dalzell, . . . .                                    | 0  | 5  | Miss Riehardson, 48, London Street, 0   | 2  | 6  | 0 |
| 11, Gilmore Plaee, . . . .                               | 0  | 2  | Mrs. Chrystal, 72, Broughton Street, 0  | 2  | 6  | 0 |
| Mrs. F. Richardson, Arehibald Place, 0                   | 5  | 0  | William Bonar, Esq., Warriston          |    |    |   |
| Mrs. Forrest, 17, do., .                                 | 0  | 2  | House, . . . .                          | 2  | 2  | 0 |
| A Friend, . . . .                                        | 0  | 1  | A Friend, . . . .                       | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Mrs. Bowie, Windmill House, 0                            | 2  | 6  | Dowager Lady Gray, Warriston            |    |    |   |
| A Friend, . . . .                                        | 0  | 2  | House, . . . .                          | 1  | 0  | 0 |
| J. K., . . . .                                           | 0  | 2  | Honourable Mrs. Ainslie, .              | 0  | 10 | 0 |
| A Friend, . . . .                                        | 0  | 1  | J. S. Owen, Howard Plaee, .             | 0  | 10 | 0 |
| Mr. Compton, Holland Lodge, Newington, . . . .           | 0  | 7  | Mrs. Bogle, 3, do., .                   | 0  | 3  | 0 |
| Mr. James N. Paterson, Minto St., 0                      | 3  | 0  | Miss Tulloch, 11, Warriston Crescent, 0 | 10 | 0  | 0 |
| Wm. Paterson, 11, Keir Street, 0                         | 2  | 6  | Miss Mary Paterson, do., .              | 0  | 10 | 0 |
| Miss Napier, Grey Street, .                              | 0  | 10 | Mrs. M'Kenzie Ross, 14, do., .          | 0  | 2  | 6 |
| Mrs. Rae, . . . .                                        | 0  | 2  | A Friend, 3, Warriston Place,           | 0  | 1  | 0 |
| A Friend, per Mrs. Robertson, 38, Minto Street, . . . .  | 0  | 1  | Geo. Callain, Greenside Place,          | 0  | 5  | 0 |
| A Lady, per Mrs. Grant, 6, West Newington Place, . . . . | 0  | 2  | Mrs. Dundas, 25, St. Andrew Square, 0   | 2  | 6  | 0 |
| Mrs. Kemp, 27, Montague Street, 0                        | 1  | 0  | Miss Jameson, Drummond Place, 0         | 2  | 6  | 0 |
| Mr. Chisholm, 33, do., .                                 | 0  | 2  | Rev. James R. Campbell, 1, Hender-      |    |    |   |
| Miss Sampson, 1, Clerk St., .                            | 0  | 1  | son Row, . . . .                        | 0  | 10 | 0 |
| Mrs. Dunean, 34, Minto Street, 0                         | 5  | 0  | A Friend, . . . .                       | 0  | 2  | 0 |
| Carry forward, £8 8 6                                    |    |    | Mrs. Morgan, 30, Danube Street, 0       | 5  | 0  | 0 |
|                                                          |    |    | A Lady, . . . .                         | 0  | 2  | 6 |
|                                                          |    |    | Carry forward, £18 9 0                  |    |    |   |

|                                                               | Brought forward, £18 9 0 | Brought forward, £40 15 0                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Mrs. Bryce, 19, Dean Terrace,                                 | 0 1 6                    | Rev. James Clark, 7, Duncan Street,         |
| A Lady, per Miss Campbell of Jura,                            |                          | Newington, . . . 0 10 6                     |
| 14, Royal Circus, . . . 1 5 0                                 |                          | Misses Thomson, Portobello, . 1 0 0         |
| A Friend, . . . . 0 2 6                                       |                          | Walter Wilson, Esq., Orchard House, 1 10 0  |
| John Anderson, Esq., 32, Moray Pl., 0 10 0                    |                          | Dr. Wielobycki, . . . 2 2 0                 |
| Miss Walker, 3, Gloucester Place, 0 2 6                       |                          | J. Sinclair, . . . 0 2 6                    |
| Miss Edington, do., . . . 0 2 6                               |                          | Mrs. Ramsden, . . . 0 2 6                   |
| Andw. Haig, Dispensary Patient, do., 0 2 6                    |                          | Mrs. Hay, Dalkeith, . . . 0 2 6             |
| Mrs. Arnott, Wemyss Place, . . . 0 7 6                        |                          | Henry Paul, . . . 0 5 0                     |
| Robert Hogue, 65, Queen Street, 1 1 0                         |                          | Rob. Robertson, Castle Hill, . 0 2 6        |
| T. Constable, 11, Thistle Street, 0 5 0                       |                          | Mrs. Burnfield, . . . 0 1 0                 |
| A Friend, M. N., 4, Queen Street, 0 5 0                       |                          | A Friend, . . . . 0 1 6                     |
| Miss Scott, 11, Abercrombie Place, 0 3 0                      |                          | D. Reid, 90, South Bridge, . 0 3 0          |
| Mrs. Heddle, 6, Randolph Cliff, 0 5 0                         |                          | Mrs. Harvey, 15, Brunswick Street,          |
| Dr. Russell, Lynedoch Place, 1 0 0                            |                          | Hillside, . . . . 0 5 0                     |
| Mrs. Forster, 17, Lynedoch Place, 0 5 0                       |                          | Robert Hogue, Esq., Donation to-            |
| Mrs. Leggat, Water of Leith, 0 2 6                            |                          | wards extinction of debt, . 1 1 0           |
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